Daily Report

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Reportage on 4th Andean Pact Presidential Summit

Fujimori Opens Meeting

PY3011153090 La Paz Television Boliviana Network in Spanish 1922 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Speech by Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori at the opening session of the fourth Andean Presidential Council meeting at the Hotel La Paz in La Paz—live]

[Text] Messrs. President:

It is now time for the president of Peru, the country that hosted the last Andean Presidential Council meeting, to greet and thank, on behalf of those who have come to La Paz, our host, President Jaime Paz Zamora, and through him the sister people of Bolivia for their generous hospitality. I am complying with this task with great pleasure and I am aware of the honor it represents. Thank you, President Paz Zamora. We are very happy to be in this land of yours, which is also our land. More than ever, we are inspired by an authentic spirit of integration. This is my first trip abroad as president, and it is also my first meeting with the Andean Presidential Council. Like previous meetings, this is a magnificent opportunity to evaluate the integration process. It is, above all, a magnificent opportunity to think about our common destiny in view of the great global changes that have recently taken place and which continue to take place at an increasingly faster pace.

The great cause that prompted Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Venezuela, and Peru to achieve a pact for integration was to jointly attain more advanced levels of development and, as a consequence, to improve and solidify the well-being of Andean region inhabitants. Development is much more than growth, however, and well-being is determined by much more than higher incomes. The Andean integration process must go beyond the economic aspect to include the political, social, and cultural fields.

There are many aspects of integration. Although it is true that the economic and social aspects have been the practical elements used to promote our integration efforts, we—the people and governors—have always pursued Simon Bolivar's great dream of a real and effective unity among our countries. This great dream has always been mentioned, as have all Latin American dreams in the speeches of governors. It has established itself as utopia in the minds of our intellectuals and in the work of our artists without ever coming true. It has remained a good intention.

This dream, which has also been a heresy for Latin American chauvinism, is today an imperative mandate for the reality of 1990. As a people with a common past, with common interests and hopes, we do not hesitate to unite to face the future together. Everything in the Andean subregion unites us; very little separates us. How many times has it been said? The urgent requirement today is to demand not only a greater spirit of integration but greater and more effective work toward integration.

In my country, Peru, we see two realities: The formal country and the real country. Perhaps this is also the case with other Latin American countries. The dynamics of the people are different from those of their governments, since the governments do not always clearly interpret the genuine interests of the peoples. This is why the informal market in Peru, the so-called underground economy, is a kind of popular capitalism that sprung up when the government was incapable of generating a national development process.

This is why direct democracy in Peru—and perhaps in some other countries of the region—exists alongside a formal democracy that is out of touch and incapable of responding to our people's needs. This is why some of our towns in the border areas, which are united through everyday life, are generating real, valuable, and effective integration ties despite the fact that they are not included in the formal, slow, integration processes, which are hindered by bureaucracy. Countries must not ignore these experiences and vital needs; rather, they must encourage and consolidate them.

There seem to be really encouraging perspectives. Barely a year ago, when the Andean presidents met in the Galapagos and approved the general strategy, there was general satisfaction over the fact that the Andean group was beginning to define terms and objectives which in the past had been postponed several times. Since that date, the governments of two of the five countries of the subregion have changed, bringing considerable modifications to their economic policies, and new integration processes have sprung in Latin America. This represents, I repeat, encouraging perspectives.

We may say that thanks to these government changes within the Andean group, we are implementing similar economic policies for first time in the subregion. We have changed some excessively protectionist positions—which did not yield positive results in the past—to a process of openness and adjustment whose effects are beginning to be felt through the effective stabilization of our economies. Without doubt, on a short term this will bring an industrial conversion that will be efficient and competent. This is the perspective from which we see integration as part of a regional process that will allow us to join, as a bloc, the new international order.

If for nearly 20 years it was wrongfully thought that integration and openness were opposites, today we know for sure that a serious, deep, and far- reaching integration project may only come true alongside a similar process of openness.

Obviously, integration does not end in a simple negotiation over import-export tariffs or non-tariff barriers. Integration covers many other aspects, including the free circulation of capital, of people, physical integration, harmonization of agriculture policies, and any technological and industrial projects we may implement. All of

this will be to no avail for the governments if an active participation of the economic agents of our countries is not attained because they are the ones who will definitively make the economic integration possible. Thus, I thank President Paz Zamora for also inviting this time the businessmen of our countries to discuss integration subjects.

I must also congratulate the Bolivian Government because it has made a great effort in organizing preparatory meetings among the ministers of agriculture, industry, transportation, economy and planning, and central banks chiefs. New dynamism has been added to the integration process through these preparatory meetings which, although they are not included in the formal structure of the agreement, have the great virtue of gathering those who implement our policies.

A smooth integration process will not be possible without the effective participation of the economic agents. Therefore, during this meeting we must draft and perhaps define efficient mechanisms to make their participation possible. Although the subregional trade figures show little activity as consequence of our productive and exporting apparatus, they still show that up to 30 percent of our manufactured trade takes place within our subregion. This clearly demonstrates that in this field we need greater support from the private sector, which can offer a more promising future.

At the beginning of my speech I said that circumstances have changed not only inside the Andean Group, but also in Latin America in general. On the one hand we have some bilateral agreements that seek to create a free trade zone, and on the other hand everything indicates that the Southern Cone market will become a common market. This is possible thanks to the policy of openness that currently prevails in the subregion. The way international economic relations are turning out, integration is the most functional way to arrive in the 21st century. We must not arrive separated and estranged on this symbolical date that is so close. The great competition for markets, capitals, and technology must be assumed as a group if we want to be successful. This has been understood by a united Europe, by powerful countries like the United States and Canada, and by Mexico. This is the prevailing thought among the Asian countries. That is, we are witnessing the formation of highly competitive regional blocs to which the only possible alternative our own open, competitive, and modern bloc.

I think that if, during the past 20 years, our integration had successful moments and at times when it was paralyzed as consequence of a model that did not allow us to grow and develop, this process now has possibilities of a revival thanks to the decision of the presidents. We must capitalize on this experience that offers new alternatives. Given the progress made last year, we must reflect together if the goals and objectives adopted in the Galapagos Islands continue to be valid or if they are not in keeping with the modern times of Latin America and the world. I think that we must make an effort to accelerate Andean integration and to reinforce its instruments. I think that we must persist in our efforts to attain a common market because it is superior to a free market zone, but we must also shorten the terms to reach this objective. With objectivity we must face the problem of the non-compliance of goals, which harms the credibility of our efforts. Thus, I think that it is necessary to expand the attributions and proceedings of the Andean Court within the framework of the Cartagena Agreement to preserve the system of rights and obligations of the member countries.

Any kind of integration has costs and benefits which must be apportioned equally according to the degree of development of the countries of the group, but without granting concessions to small selfish interests which try to seek shelter. I am sure that the consequences of not integrating are greater than what may be perceived at first glance, since the interests of each of our countries and of our common project may be seriously harmed. Every commitment here must be assumed purely for the well-being of our peoples. We cannot serve their well-being if the negotiations are marked by selfish interests.

It has been said that the Andean Group faces a crisis. I will not refute this statement. I want to assert, however, that any crisis is an opportunity and we are probably facing one of those occasions when the decisions we will make will determine the future of our peoples, not only in terms of the Cartagena Agreement and its strategy, but also in terms of what we may call the new integration subject which offers great possibilities for development and cooperation among our countries and eventually with other countries. It is clear that joint negotiations offer better possibilities than an isolated negotiation, and negotiations with third parties enrich the Andean Group rather than harm it.

I am sure that during this meeting we will take concrete steps to cooperate with the Andean integration process to which we are committed. As I have said before, by recognizing the needs of our peoples, which have not been met for several reasons, we must reassert our integration disposition as demonstrated through this forum.

Messrs. President, we hope that this meeting will yield positive results for the efforts that each of our countries is individually making, seeking to overcome difficult situations and to set the bases for the future. I sincerely hope that a new step will be taken toward the real and effective integration of our countries. Beyond our governments, the peoples of this Andean region are united in spirit through the Spanish and indigenous languages, our exotic geography, and the heroic deeds which were a joint response to foreign interests. Finally, our peoples are united through pre-Hispanic history and legend, and through collective dreams that spontaneously flourish in our land, a land that is yet virgin for sowing in the future. Thank you. [applause]

Paz Zamora Addresses Session

PY3011164390 La Paz Television Boliviana Network in Spanish 1943 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Speech by Bolivian President Jaime Paz Zamora at the opening session of the fourth Andean Presidential Council meeting at the Hotel La Paz in La Paz—live]

[Excerpts] Thank you very much for your words, my dear President Alberto Fujimori.

Your excellencies, the presidents of the sister countries of the subregional Andean agreement; distinguished personalities; my dear fellow countrymen from Bolivia, and from all the nations of the subregion.

I would like to give the warmest welcome to our beloved Andean presidents, telling them that Bolivia has opened its heart to welcome them as brothers. [passage omitted]

We began the 1990's with new awareness of the need to foster integration. We are in the middle of extraordinary international changes that would have been inconceivable until a short time ago, as is witnessed by the events in Europe and in many other places.

We are becoming aware that we should rapidly unite to face this change in the international arena. In our own subregion we have begun to experience the concepts of marketing, investment, technology, efficiency, and competitiveness.

We have begun to understand that the concept of state that gave rise to the integration process in 1969 must be changed, and that we should begin to consider the state in terms of quality rather than quantity. The state should not just manage the nation well; it should also be a qualitative—rather than quantitative—instrument for integration.

All this should be done within an expanding democratic process in which we are rediscovering the revolutionary significance of democracy, and in which we are beginning to speak about the revolution of democracy, which goes against all the hegemony and intermediaries that seek to isolate our society and our countries.

This is why, my dear presidents, at this meeting we can see the results of this process, of this course that we have jointly begun. We can say that development remains the key challenge, that all of us want to modernize our societies and our states, and that we want political and economic stability within a democratic system.

All of us want economic growth and social development to directly benefit our people. We all understand that investment is absolutely necessary in our region, and that the investment regulations that we initially enforced are now absolutely inappropriate, whether for domestic or foreign investment.

We now understand that the state should play a new role in the integration process. We have learned that it is not the states which integrate themselves, that is not the role of the states. We have learned that people are the true builders of integration, and that they operate through their own actors and through their economic, social, and political agents.

We have learned that the state should not try to replace society in the effort to promote integration. Instead, the state should create the appropriate conditions to let the creative and entrepreneurial initiative of our people promote integration.

We have learned that the state should try not to raise obstacles that hinder integration. We have learned that the only role that the state should play is create the appropriate conditions. We can no longer believe, as we did in the past, that integration programs have to be implemented, for example, through entrepreneurial states. With that approach, we planned the activities and the growth of state enterprises, assigning specific roles to each one of them in each state, expecting that such roles would be later coordinated within the Andean system.

Today we know that the state should let the people work and that it should only regulate integration, allowing the entrepreneurial spirit of our nations build all the instruments of integration.

We have learned that in addition to public investment—which should guarantee, for example, the communication infrastructure between our nations or the services that are necessary for production—the main emphasis should be placed on private investment, whether foreign or domestic.

All of us have agreed on this topic. We have also seen that the informal integration that was mentioned by President Fujimori must be now rendered formal, ending its illegal status within the context of integration.

The tasks to be undertaken within these new concepts are clear. These tasks are like concentric circles whose centers are our own Andean countries.

The first task is Andean integration, which we will analyze during this meeting and which will necessarily lead to a real and full opening of the Andean market.

We will have to begin with a free trade zone that should later become a zone with common customs regulations. This will then lead to the creation of a true common market in the Andean subregion.

To this end it is absolutely necessary that all our countries coordinate their economic policies. We have to harmonize our economies, for example, in the exchange rate and in the monetary program—to mention just two major topics—in order to coordinate our economic systems.

We must consolidate the Andean economic structure. Both the adjustment in which we are engaged and the international situation have led us to set this challenge. We must personally undertake the harmonization and

coordination of our economies. We must do it because we need to do it. We must do it by our own will.

We should not let the international financial and economic market harmonize us through our own bilateral relations with the international financial system. We do not mean that it is wrong, but it could spoil the objectives that we want to achieve as a subregion. The international market can demand the adoption of economic models, and the implementation of economic adjustments and the rationalization of policies, coupled with a message that goes against integration on the grounds that such economic adjustment and rationalization are incompatible with integration among our nations.

Our challenge, however, is to properly resolve the difficult equation involving economic rationalization and efficiency, together with subcontinental and Latin American integration.

Dear presidents, We will have to study the integration of our own Andean Pact beyond our borders and study its opening toward the rest of the region, to South America, and to Mexico.

We will have to talk about these issues with brotherly confidence. Facts have already spoken for themselves because the Andean Reserve Fund has become a Latin American reserve fund, and a sister country like Mexico has joined the Andean Development Corporation.

We will have to make a major effort to coordinate subregional integration processes as a whole, leading toward the integration of the bigger regions of our continent.

This is nothing new, because the charter [acta constitutiva] that we signed in 1969 defined the Andean subregional pact as one of the driving forces for broader Latin American integration.

Based on this approach, we will have to debate on the Group of Rio, which is a new phenomenon that has filled all of us with enthusiasm.

This is the first time in history that all Andean countries are members of a group. Beyond all doubt, we have the possibility of harmonizing our efforts toward economic integration and the operation of an instrument that is clearly emerging as a regional political coordinator. We will then promote integration at the hemispheric level.

Each one of our countries, in one way or another, is a bridge that joins us to another part of our continent. For example, the countries in the northern Andean region are the natural bridge toward the Caribbean and toward North America. The countries in the southern Andean region—perhaps specifically Bolivia—are the natural bridge toward the Southern Cone.

This shows our subregion's devotion for full integration. This is why, from a hemispheric perspective we must propose our own initiative in response to that of President Bush. Since it is our own initiative, it must achieve what the United States—through its President—has proposed to us in a friendly manner: it must not be a repetition of past mistakes. By our own initiative we must clearly state that rather than cooperation we want partnership, that we conclude good business deals in the hemisphere, and that we do not want to solve our hemispheric market and trade problems through subsidies. We should also clearly state that we are willing to compete at that level, and that we are willing to welcome investment within this context.

We want cooperation in the hemisphere, not through domination but as partners in a new concept of trade, investment, and technology at the hemispheric level.

Our prospects will have to grow even further. We have Europe and the EEC, which today is a much more significant reference for us in Latin America and in the Andean subregion, within this multi-polar context that the international community is rapidly approaching.

Only a very few days ago the EEC generously offered the countries of the region the implementation of a preferential system. This offer will undoubtedly give us extraordinary prospects on the European market. Almost 10 years ago we installed a joint Andean-European committee with the EEC. The committee will meet in Lima by mid-December. It will be the first meeting since the signing in 1987 of a master agreement between the EEC and the Andean subregion.

We have Europe, and we have the Pacific basin toward the Far East. As I have just said, they are concentric circles around ourselves in the Andean community that lead us to our natural South American environment, to Central America, the Caribbean, and Mexico, and then to the hemisphere, to Europe and to the Far East, just like the universal trend around the earth.

This is what I wanted to say here. I would like to express my satisfaction over the fact that I am substantially in agreement with what President Fujimori has told us.

To conclude—and I think this is appropriate—I want to refer to two specific aspects, two specific and immediate responsibilities of the Andean countries with the international community. The first is our commitment to directly fight drug trafficking. Within this context, we must consolidate and take on the Cartagena Declaration as our own, through our compatible agreement with our sister country, the United States of America, and we must reassert at this presidential summit that all our policies on this matter, which is a crucial issue for humanity, will be based on the Cartagena Accord, its philosophy, and its mechanism. The other great challenge and responsibility is the defense of the environment and ecological preservation.

Our territory houses one of the few environment treasuries left to mankind. I will give just one reference: Our

territory houses the world's only Pleistocene forest, in the eastern region of our mountain range.

Consequently, we have to harmonize our policies in this crucial area, we have to adopt rational standards for the use of natural resources, and we must define historical Andean environmental guidelines. These guidelines should allow us to stop devastation and to jointly plan an environmental treatment for the region, so that our natural resources may be exploited in a rational manner and in harmony with man.

If we recall our forests, we should also recall the indigenous people who live under the trees of our forests. Consequently, I also see that it is urgent for us to harmonize our policies with the indigenous people of our countries because the structure of our nations was built upon those people. We will thus harmonize the indigenous people with our environment and with their own habitat. [applause]

I am aware that this is a major challenge. Faced with this challenge, my dear presidents, we have two alternatives: The first is to fold our arms, adopting a position of indifference and irresponsibility toward our own people; The other is the one that Andean presidents have always adopted, a positive and firm attitude coupled with great optimism and hope, seeking to build our integration process for the present and for the future.

If we ever feel depressed by the gigantic magnitude of our task, I would like to recall—in order to draw on our inner strength and on our history—the words that liberator Simon Bolivar energetically said when he was touring this stormy Andean geographical region, aware of the difficulties of his fight for independence. Bolivar said to his troops: If the forces of nature want to prevent the fulfillment of our decisions, we must submit them and force them to obey us. Thank you very much. [applause]

Gaviria Comments on Cuba

PY3011193790 La Paz Television Boliviana Network in Spanish 0030 GMT 30 Nov 90

[News conference by Colombian President Cesar Gaviria with unidentified reporter accredited to the Andean Presidential Council summit shortly after Gaviria's arrival in La Paz on 29 November—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] We would like to know your opinion about George Bush's Americas Initiative. Andean countries think that the initiative reflects a change in U.S. foreign policy toward Latin America. Your country is affected by the economic crisis and by drug trafficking more than other countries. What will be your counterproposal to the Bush initiative?

[Gaviria] We celebrate the Bush initiative as a change of U.S. attitude toward Latin America. The main emphasis of this initiative is not to create a strategic alliance but to foster commercial and economic ties. This is very important. Colombia welcomes this initiative and hopes that all Cartagena Accord country members will progress toward an eventual free trade agreement with the United States. We are also working on similar agreements with Mexico, with Chile, and of course with other South American countries.

[Reporter] We seem to be moving toward a lasting peace. Current U.S. Government policies, however, seek to increasingly suffocate the economy of one Latin American country: Cuba. Occasionally we see in international events, like the Group of Rio meetings, that members try to attenuate this aggressive U.S. policy. We want to know if the Andean group will discuss its solidarity with Cuba in light of the U.S. Government's aggressive policies toward this sisterly country.

[Gaviria] I want to say, like any Latin American, that we would be happy to see Cuba fully integrated to the inter-American system. We respect the principle of self-determination, of course, and we respect the decisions of each country. We would be very pleased and satisfied, however, if we could see the winds of democracy, in an electoral sense, blowing in Cuba. We have always said that the self-determination of the people must be respected, but we would also like to see Cuba incorporated into all Inter-American institutions. Just as in East Europe, we would like to see the winds of glasnost and perestroyka bring full reconciliation between Cuba and Latin America and all inter-American institutions. We hope that some day we can overcome the difficulties that prevent Cuba from keeping close and full relations with the rest of the continent, not only with the rest of Latin America, but also with the United States.

Gaviria on UN Gulf Resolution

PA0112030690 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 2 in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Text] In La Paz, Bolivia, President Cesar Gaviria has referred to the extraditables and the hostages in an informal chat with journalists. Although he was only scheduled to discuss the Andean Pact, today President Gaviria discussed two topics of much importance in Colombia. He discussed the kidnapping of journalists and Colombia's vote at the UN Security Council.

During an informal chat with the journalists who accompanied him to Bolivia, the president said that the international community needs to show Iraq its ability to take action. Iraq, however, has also been told that if it withdraws, it will be given some guarantees.

[Begin Gaviria recording] I trust that the resolution approved on 29 November at the UN Security Council will not lead to war, but to a peaceful solution. [end recording]

The president also discussed the kidnapped journalists and Francisco Santos' letter asking him to do everything possible to obtain his release and that of his colleagues.

[Begin Gaviria recording] The government's commitment and obligation is to do everything in its power to obtain their release. [end recording]

Gaviria said that he will continue to struggle to see that the journalists are released so they can spend Christmas with their families.

Decision on Free Trade Zone

PY0112195490 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1929 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Text] La Paz, 30 Nov (EFE)—The Andean Pact—in an important decision that marks the effective integration of that area—today agreed to form a free trade zone on 1 January 1992.

"The Andean Pact is now a reality. It is no longer rhetoric," Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez stated when announcing the agreements reached at the end of the two-day summit. The commitment was adopted by Bolivian President Jaime Paz Zamora, Colombian President Cesar Gaviria, Ecuadoran President Rodrigo Borja, Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori, and Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez.

The 12-page Declaration of La Paz signed by the presidents includes presidential guidelines on "strengthening Andean integration as a preliminary step toward the Latin American common market." To achieve this objective, they decided to accelerate the harmonization of economic policy, territorial and border integration, agricultural and livestock development, and liberation of capital, services, and people, among others.

The approved resolution grants Ecuador, a country reluctant to fulfill the deadline for tariff reductions, six months to join the free trade zone.

"Ecuador will carry out internal consultations in order to decide on its participation in the process," the final document states. Meanwhile, its Andean Pact partners will request financial resources to "create a fund to support industrial restructuring and facilitate adaptation of that sector to the new conditions of the expanded market," the Declaration of La Paz stated.

"Whoever stops on the road to integration could find that it will be very difficult to regain the circumstances of the historic period that we are living through," Venezuelan President Andres Perez stated, referring directly to Ecuador's stand. Ecuadoran private enterprise has pressured the Quito government not to approve the tariff reductions in 1991 because they believe the Ecuadoran industrial structure could collapse in an open market.

According to the final document, the presidents decided to intensify harmonization of Andean macroeconomic policies, especially in the exchange, financial, and payment sectors, pursuant to a work program that will be implemented in 1991 after a meeting of the region's finance ministers.

On foreign investments, the common rules will be modified in the first half of next year due to the new opening in each of the Andean nations.

The presidents agreed to promote the agricultural and livestock policy with price stabilization, and to eliminate "distortion factors" such as food donations, which are subject to a coordination of policies among the five countries.

The regional free trade zone will become the preliminary step toward a Latin American common market, and for that, the Andean presidents decided to intensify and multiply links of mutual assistance and economic cooperation among Latin American and Caribbean countries.

Perez Remarks at Closing Ceremony

PY0112150090 La Paz Television Boliviana Network in Spanish 1725 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Speech by Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez at the closing ceremony of the fourth Andean Presidential Council meeting at Government House in La Paz—live]

[Excerpts] Messrs. President of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru; Foreign Ministers of the Andean Pact; Ministers to President Paz Zamora; members of the Cartagena Board; ladies and gentlemen; and Latin American countrymen:

We are closing the fourth presidential summit meeting of the Andean Presidential Council, as we have called it since the Machu Picchu meeting. To understand why the Andean Pact is in full bloom today, we have to look back on the decision made in Caracas in February 1989 and the commitment assumed by the presidents to meet every six months to evaluate the progress of previously made decisions and to make new ones.

For more than 20 years, we have had illustrious countrymen from our five countries on the Cartagena Board and Commission, working tirelessly on reports on studies about the region and proposing new decisions. Speaking frankly, however, our governments have lacked the political will to responsibly assume the leadership of the Andean Pact. On the other hand, in our countries we have run into a natural resistance to innovation and change. This resistance was especially noticeable in the economic sectors, which were used to a tradition of working under states that were paternalistic and even to some extent arbitrary. Acting on their own discretion, the states made all decisions on the economic course of the nation. Businessmen leaned on the state's discretion for their security. The subsidies, aid, and tariffs provided an accommodating—if not completely satisfactory—form of conducting entrepreneurial activities.

Of course, generalizations are unfair and misrepresentative, but that was the reality of our Latin America. Now, why have we Latin Americans so profoundly changed the way the state is managed, although we have not changed our ideas of social justice or the state's uppermost

objective? The industrial countries usually blame us for all our faults and sufferings, but we should not regret everything that happened during our years of existence as republics. The powerful and protective state that evolved in those years was a response to the times of imperialisms, to open intervention by the economic powers to exploit our wealth and labor. That situation drove Latin American states to adopt closed policies to protect the interests of the nation and the people. Through this process the state was distorted until we reached the situation we found ourselves in the 1980's, when all the inconsistencies and disadvantages of our national reality became obvious.

We realized then that we truly believed in integration and we honestly discussed it, but we did not have the political will to forge that integration. The realities of our antagonistic and conflictive economies stood against it.

We have entered this new reality, not through some sort of miracle, but because the Andean region presidents have taken on the leadership of the integration process and have learned to listen with more respect to the pioneers of integration who for all these years have been responsible for the technical and political organs of the integration process. We came to understand that we were not on the path to progress, that regional integration was not possible as long as borders were marked with barbed wire and interspersed with customs houses where tariffs, bans on products, and countless rules turned our countries into territories closed not to international trade but to interregional trade. The Andean Pact was not able to prosper.

Today, on the contrary, integration mechanisms are springing up. There are so many that they can be confusing: the Group of Four, made up of Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay; the Group of Three, made up of Venezuela, Colombia, and Mexico; the ALADI [Latin American Integration Association], made up of 11 countries, including the five members of the Andean Pact; and the Andean Pact itself, which is another integration instrument. Are we possibly going to throw the process into disarray? Are we in such a hurry that we do not know which road to take to strengthen our trade, our production capability, our overall economy? [passage omitted]

A significant event in the integration process has taken place here at the fourth Andean Presidential Council meeting: The Andean presidents have received private business representatives from our five countries. One of them, the representative of the Bolivian businessmen's association, spoke on behalf of the five Latin American business groups.

We heard—in clear, resolute, and decisive language—not generalized concepts promoting the integration process but concepts that single out various aspects of the Andean Pact process and aim at implementing a free trade zone first, a single customs system, and then the Latin American community. This has impressed us; we now know that Andean businessmen also have a political goal and are willing to strongly support the integration process.

We also heard, however, some reasonable expressions of distrust and uncertainty. This distrust exists because the government traditions in our countries, based on a presidential system that in each and every one of our countries was nourished on the perverse poison of the dictatorships that ruled our countries for so long, have left traces of authoritarian presidential systems. This is the reason for the distrust. People wonder whether the governments are going to act with the honesty and fairness we promise, whether we are going to continue to implement our policies without making surprising changes. Businessmen are asking these and other questions.

They may very well say: We believe in you, the five chiefs of state of our respective countries, but will your successors respect these guidelines, or will they implement other policy changes? This is an important question. I believe that this is the most important issue in the current Latin American situation, especially in the Andean Group.

We are implementing structural changes. These changes cannot be made just because chiefs of state or pressure groups—as we call the groups that exist in our countries—fancy them. These changes are setting a path we cannot abandon, a path that we must continue to follow. We cannot give up on what we are doing in our countries because we are tackling problems at the source. This is the reason for the adjustment measures, the structural changes that are being implemented in Latin American economies. This should assure businessmen that we have taken a path on which there is no turning back. Whoever stops on that path, whoever abandons it, could find himself in a tight spot and have a difficult time resuming the path we are following.

At this meeting in La Paz we approved what we are calling the Declaration of La Paz. It is a continuation of the declarations signed in Macchu Pichu, the Galapagos, and Cartagena. It is really encouraging to see what we have achieved in only 20 months by making deep changes, in the sense of the significance of the decisions we are making.

We decided today that we will completely remove customs tariffs by 31 December 1991. We decided that we will establish a single customs system by 1995.

Furthermore, in this Declaration of La Paz we have expressed the purpose of this Latin American effort: To make the nineties—the last decade of the 20th century, opening the door to the third millennium—the decade that will see us enter the next century with an established Latin American Common Market.

I am not usually very optimistic—I am usually realistic about what we have to do—but I am certain, by the way in which we have acted between the meeting in Cartagena and this one in La Paz, that we are making progress.

We are making progress not because we are in a rush, not because we lack the necessary caution, but because the present time calls for it. It is today's situation—not us—that calls for haste. We are witnessing the establishment of great economic blocs. The EEC will shortly become a European confederation. In the United States and Canada, in Southeast Asia, we are seeing the establishment of great economic blocs. What is going to happen to Latin America?

President Bush has issued a challenge. We must respond positively to this challenge, because we Latin Americans have abandoned the complexes that blocked our ability to progress for such a long time, complexes that made us see everything from the North as a suspicious malignancy within an offer or proposal. Today, however, we no longer think like that. First, because the international community has made progress, because international law has become a powerful tool to defend weaker nations. It is also because Latin Americans have established societies that are capable of realizing what is or is not convenient to us. We were not able to do this in the past; we had very limited levels of scientific and cultural education. [passage omitted]

The members of the Andean Pact have not given up the idea of state intervention, when necessary, in many fields. We have, however, given up the discretionary state, the arbitrary state. We have clearly stated that it is necessary to reduce the state. We have admitted that the presence of private business is a determining factor in development, that private business must carry out the development of our countries, and that the state must not do the work of private companies. [applause]

We have admitted that we were wrong in suppressing foreign investment. That decision had been based on the many disasters that had occurred in our countries in the past and on the exploitation of our resources with little benefit for our countries. Now that we no longer have that prejudice, now that we are sure of ourselves, now that we can no longer be deceived, and now that there is an international organization which supports good commercial practices, we can invite foreign investment. We want the investment to go to the countryside, where it is really needed. It should also be subject to the rules in effect in the investors' own countries.

We have opened the doors to foreign investment and we are opening up to international trade. We must also open our customhouses so that customhouses in international ports are opened to us. We cannot prohibit imports of products from other countries. This is the great challenge, and it is difficult. We are not ready for this at all. We must get ready quickly. We cannot delay our decisions because the future of our countries depends on them.

This is the effort we are making in the Andean Pact. In reading the Declaration of La Paz and its points, you will not find the old integration rhetoric. You will find specific points on every essential aspect in the economic lives of our countries. You will also find established deadlines for the implementation of the decisions we made. We are also allowing the participation of private business; under states with absolute power, private businesses only used to take orders, and the orders involved subsidies, privileges, and protection.

As a result of the meetings with the five leaders of the Andean private business sectors, we also decided that representatives of private and union sectors can join the Cartagena Board and Commission.

This rounds up the integration process. It would be impossible to pretend that the sectors that are going to carry out the integration—that are going to implement the decisions made by the state—should not have any participation in discussions or in making the decisions. They are now going to integrate themselves into the process because it is an overall responsibility to which we are all committed, the government and the people, to set progress in motion in Latin America. [passage omitted]

Perez on Regional Integration

PY3011193190 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1951 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Excerpt] La Paz, 29 Nov (EFE)—Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez said today that Latin America has failed in its attempt to seek "absolute integration." He said that the only solution is to unite the various subregional processes.

During a news conference before the presidential summit of the Andean Pact member countries (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Venezuela), Perez said: "Our idea of achieving absolute integration has failed and now we have realized that if we are to achieve integration we must go stage by stage." [passage omitted]

Presidents Depart After Summit

PY0112025290 La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 2300 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Text] After the conclusion of the Andean presidential summit, Ecuadoran President Rodrigo Borja was the first to depart at 1705; Colombian President Cesar Gaviria was next to depart at 1725; Peruvian President Agricultural Engineer Alberto Fujimori left at 1740; and Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez was the last to leave at 1755.

Next Summit Scheduled in Caracas

PY0112105590 La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 2300 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Text] In conclusion, we can inform our listeners that the fifth Andean Presidential Council summit will be held in May 1991 in Caracas, Venezuela.

Peru, Bolivia Conclude Agreements on Livestock

PY0212200490 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 22 Nov 90 p 6

[Excerpts] At the fourth meeting of Andean Pact ministers, the Bolivian and Peruvian Governments signed six cooperation agreements in the fields of livestock and agriculture. The agreements were signed yesterday in a ceremony at the Foreign Ministry's Green Hall.

Peruvian Agriculture Minister Enrique Rossl Link and Bolivian Minister of Agriculture, Campesino Affairs, and Livestock Affairs Mauro Bertero signed the agreements. The ceremony was attended by diplomatic representatives of both countries and by Foreign Ministry officials. [passage omitted]

The first agreement will promote the livestock sector, genetic improvement, and industrialization and sale of llama and alpaca products.

The second agreement will improve vicuna breeding through technical assistance Peru will give Bolivia in the areas of preservation and care, especially techniques for capturing, shearing, transporting, and counting vicunas, and for physicochemical analyses of fibers. Technical assistance will also include processed vicuna products and classification and cleaning of vicuna wool.

Under the third agreement, which is tied to animal health, the two countries will establish specific norms for plant sanitation, including common standards; exchange of information; quarantine regulations; border administrative system regulations; and requirements for the exchange of plant products and by-products.

The fourth agreement is an agriculture and livestock research accord that supplements the basic technical and scientific cooperation agreement signed in 1975. This agreement deals with implementation of agriculture and livestock research projects, exchange of information and publications, exchange of experiences, and seminars.

The fifth agreement deals with animal health in border areas. The two countries, through a permanent joint commission, will undertake joint actions to improve control of animal disease and of animal by- products taken from one country to the other. This agreement was supplemented by an animal health program dealing with South American camelidae.

The sixth agreement provides for technical cooperation and assistance in the agriculture and livestock sector between the Peruvian Ministry of Agriculture and the Bolivian Ministry of Agriculture, Campesino Affairs, and Livestock Affairs. Under the terms of the agreement, the two ministries will support each other in the fields of agriculture, livestock, fishery, and integrated projects, including the exchange of scientific information, production technology training, and technical assistance for feeding and improving young animals.

Communist Parties Issue Solidarity Declaration

FL2911142590 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Text] Leaders of Latin American communist parties agreed to issue a declaration of solidarity with Cuba on the second day of their meeting in Mexico City to analyze the most critical international problems. The second session of the meeting, which opened on 26 November in the Fine Arts Center in Mexico City, has been marked by intense discussions about its fundamental issues: perestroyka and its influence in Latin America, the strategic line to follow to gain power, and imperialism in its current phase. Cuban delegate Luis Hernandez referred to the efforts of the Latin American left to implement calls for social justice.

Uruguayan Urges Support for Cuban Revolution

FL2911185190 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Text] Jaime Perez, secretary general of the Communist Party of Uruguay, said today in Mexico City that today, more than ever before, it is necessary to strengthen and support the Cuban revolution as a guarantee that the Latin American identity will be preserved.

In a brief talk with newsmen at the end of the third session of the meeting of communist and labor parties under way in the Mexican capital, the Uruguayan leader emphasized that the Cuban socialist process encourages Latin American peoples to hope that it is possible to build a regime that meets the needs of popular sectors.

The meeting began in Mexico City on Monday with delegates and observers from several countries on the continent in attendance. The last gathering of this type was the meeting of communist and labor parties held in Havana in 1975.

Cuba

Malmierca Outlines Position on Gulf Crisis

PA0212025190 Havana International Service in Spanish 0045 GMT 2 Dec 90

[Report by Barbara Betancourt—italicized passages are recorded]

[Text] [Betancourt] During an impromptu news conference at the Havana International Airport, Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca has said that Cuba voted against the UN resolution authorizing the use of force in the Persian Gulf because it does not think that the resolution will lead to a political solution in the gulf. He said that Cuba's no vote was consistent with efforts made in the defense of peace. Malmierca also said that the PRC's abstention demonstrated that the five permanent UN Security Council members do not share the same views on the gulf conflict.

[Malmierca] *PRC Foreign Minister Qian Qichen explained in his speech that the PRC could not vote yes on a resolution that authorized the use of force and entailed an escalation of the conflict. This is why it was impossible for the PRC to share the view of the other permanent Security Council members. This was evidence that all of the previous information and propaganda, which said that this proposal was endorsed by the five permanent members, was not true.*

[Betancourt] Malmierca commented on the fact that the U.S. Government criticized Cuba's vote on the UN Security Council's Resolution 678.

[Malmierca] *The U.S. Government has always tried to present Cuba's position as being connected to the relations between Cuba and the United States. The international public and the countries represented at the Security Council know very well that Cuba has not voted for or against the various draft resolutions presented at the Security Council based on the national interest or the narrow framework of relations between our country and any other state or between our country and the United States.*

We have always defended principles. We have always worked, even through our votes, for peace. We would have liked to support the resolution. In order for that to have happened, however, the resolution would have had to include elements that would have allowed us to regard it as a contribution to peace. Because these elements were absent, and despite the consultations and meetings with numerous ministers of the states represented at the Security Council, Cuba could not vote in favor of this resolution. It should not be expected that Cuba would take this position because of our relations with the United States.

[Betancourt] Answering another question, Malmierca said that Cuba, Yemen, Malaysia, and Colombia will continue to work on the initiative presented by Colombia. This initiative is aimed at finding a peaceful solution to the conflict.

[Malmierca] *This initiative, more than attempting to become a draft resolution, attempts to explain the framework in which these efforts could be carried out and a solution could be found. The proposal calls for two stages. In the first stage, Iraq would pull out of Kuwait, the latter's sovereignty and independence would be reestablished, and the hostages would be released. In the second stage, all foreign forces would be pulled from the region and UN peace-keeping forces would be placed in the region's countries in order to try to guarantee stability and security for a period of time that has yet to be determined. We were active in these matters before the Security Council's most recent meeting, and we continued with them right after the meeting.*

[Betancourt] Malmierca also commented on the proposal by U.S. President George Bush for talks with Iraq.

[Malmierca] *I must say tht this announcement was a surprise in both diplomatic circles in New York and the U.S. press. This decision is not at all consistent with the President's position or the position of other U.S. Administration officials of only the day before. This is why many people think this decision is a positive step that demonstrates that not all doors for a solution are closed and that, as Resolution 678 says, it is not necessary to think that the use of force is the only feasible alternative. It is necessary to continue working for peace. Negotiations, discussions, and dialogue are valid means toward this end. Several weeks ago, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn expressed his willingness to meet with President Bush to discuss the Gulf situation. I have not heard of the Iraqi Government's reaction. Did it accept it?*

[Unidentified person says yes]

[Malmierca] *I am glad this was the response. We think that this response is natural because President Husayn had proposed it previously. This meeting and discussion should open the possibility of finding a way to prevent war.*

Soviet Official Calls on Malmierca, Aldana

PA3011204690 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1830 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Text] Havana, 30 Nov (NOTIMEX)—Soviet diplomat Georgiy Mamedov and Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca have met here to exchange viewpoints on the Persian Gulf conflict.

The National News Agency (AIN) reported today—three days after his arrival—that Mamedov, who is in charge of the Soviet Foreign Ministry Department for North America, went to Havana to exchange viewpoints concerning the situation in the Middle East.

While in the country, Mamedov held private meetings with the Cuban foreign minister before his official trip to New York on 28 November to attend the special Security Council meeting.

The Cuban media has not reported on the Soviet official's visit to Cuba, nor have they reported on the meetings he held with Carlos Aldana, who is the chief of the Revolutionary Orientation Department of the Communist Party of Cuba (PCC).

The AIN pointed out that Mamedov's visit is within the normal agenda of bilateral consultations and exchanges between the two governments.

Government Opens New Havana Emigration Offices

PA0112233890 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2148 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Text] Havana, 1 Dec (NOTIMEX)—The Cuban Government has opened migration offices in the 15 districts of this city to ease the issuance of visas for those who may wish to travel abroad.

According to the National Information Agency (AIN), permits to exit Cuba will no longer be issued by public notaries but directly by Migration and Foreign Nationality Offices.

This measure will reduce the bureaucratic requests for exit visas and, above all, the control of the people who are requesting them.

The prerequisites for the exit visas, up until now, include being 45 years old, receiving a ticket from abroad, and travel outside the island.

During a recent interview with NOTIMEX, the leader of the ideological sphere of the Communist Party of Cuba (PCC), Carlos Aldana, said that over the next few months the Cuban Government will realize a total flexibility [flexibilizacion total] with its migration laws.

Regarding the age prerequisite, Aldana said that the Cuban Government's will is that all the people who may wish to travel abroad may do so.

The new migration regulation, which went into effect on 30 November, had not been reported by the island's written press until today.

In the past, the usual procedure for obtaining visas called for people to appear before a public notary. They had to fill out an official document, explaining and proving the reason for the trip, in addition to complying with the age and ticket prerequisites.

Machado Ventura Outlines 4th Congress Agenda

FL0112165990 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1511 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Text] The battle against crime has to be systematic; there can be no more delay. Harsher penalties will be applied, because these crimes undermine the economy and the prestige of the revolution. A solution to such crimes must be found as a way of coping in the special period. These comments were made by Jose Ramon Machado Ventura, member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC], when he met with party leaders in six municipalities of Granma province.

Machado Ventura said each cadre and member has to be more demanding and specific. He added that a reduction of the number of cadres promotes a better use of time, and that the present party structure is linked to new methods and working styles and should be applied in the UJC [Union of Young Communists] and mass organizations by early next year.

Machado Ventura announced that the commission that is organizing the Fourth PCC Congress will seek to bring before the rank and file for discussion proposals regarding religion, treatment of the press, and culture.

Castro Meets With DPRK, Guyanese Officials

PA0112201490 Havana International Service in Spanish 1400 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Text] Cuban President Fidel Castro met in Havana on 29 November with Kim Yong-nam, DPRK foreign minister, vice premier, and member of the Korean Workers Party Central Committee Politburo, who is on an official visit to Cuba.

Kim Yong-nam conveyed President Kim Il-song's friendly greetings, which were returned by the Cuban president during the friendly and brotherly talks held at the Revolutionary Palace in Havana. During the meeting, several issues of bilateral interest were analyzed, as well as others linked to the international situation, particularly the consequences of the Persian Gulf conflict.

Cuban President Fidel Castro also met in Havana on 29 November with Guyanese Prime Minister Hamilton Green. During the friendly conversations that took place, which are characteristic of the relations between the two nations, issues of both bilateral and international interest were discussed. Guyana's Ambassador to Cuba Oscar Clarke and our ambassador to Guyana Omar Mendoza participated in the meeting between Fidel Castro and Hamilton Green.

Havana TV Reports Meetings

FL0112193490 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and of Ministers, has met with Guyanese Prime Minister Hamilton Green. During their talk—carried out in the climate of friendship that is characteristic of the relations between the two countries—matters of bilateral interest were discussed, as well as other topics related to the international situation.

The commander in chief also received Kim Yong-nam, member of the Politburo of the Korean Workers Party Central Committee, vice prime minister of the Council of Administration, and foreign minister of the DPRK.

The Korean minister conveyed friendly greetings from President Kim Il-Song. During the friendly, fraternal conversation, the two officials discussed various topics of bilateral interest, as well as other topics related to the international situation, particularly those relating to the critical situation in the Persian Gulf.

The Korean foreign minister left for his country last night. Giraldo Mazola, vice minister of foreign relations, said farewell to the distinguished visitor at the Jose Marti International Airport.

During his visit to our country, Kim Yong-nam held official talks with Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca and visited various sites of economic and social interest.

Documentary Features 'Cuban Shield' Exercises

FL0112143790

[Editorial report] Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish at 1215 GMT on 1 December carries a 15-minute "documentary" prepared by the television studios of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR]. The film, titled "Cuban Shield [Escudo Cubano]," is a report on military exercises carried out on Cuba's recent Day of Defense. The announcer says that the film is being shown to mark the 2 December anniversary of the founding of the FAR. It consists of scenes of personnel participating in the exercise, interspersed with brief comments by Cuban President Fidel Castro, an unidentified FAR spokesman, and some of the participants.

The film starts with the announcement: "Once again the Yankees are threatening our country. The newspaper BASTION has provided a timely report of an increased U.S. military presence in the area, with the constant arrival of naval and air units at the Guantanamo Naval Base, and the movement of U.S. units close to our coasts."

The narrator says that at the time of the maneuvers, three types of exercises are being carried out by the United States: "'Ocean Venture' for this year, 'Global Shield'—which is being added as a novelty—and a defense exercise at the Yankee Naval Base in Guantanamo." He says the Cubans believe that the U.S. Armed Forces have been practicing for "a strike against our people, our installations, our economy, and everything that we are doing here in the construction of socialism." He says that in response to the threat, the National Defense Council decided to begin the "Cuban Shield" exercise.

At this point, the documentary inserts a video recording of Fidel Castro saying: "If the imperialists were to decide to stage a strike against our country, they would do precisely this: They would disguise their movements as an exercise. They would mix it with such exercises. As cynical as they are, if we sit with our arms folded and are unprepared, we would be creating perfect conditions for an aggression. In the event of an aggression from the imperialists, we must avoid, at all cost, being caught by surprise. After all, if the enemy carries out exercises, we must also stage exercises. If the enemy is carrying out exercises with all its resources, he may either be planning a strike, or he may be rehearsing to determine what forces and resources need to be mobilized. Whether it is a plan of aggression, a strike, or a test is one and the same thing. If he rehearses, we have to rehearse also."

The narrator says: "Cuban Shield is a response to the arrogance and blackmail of the United States against our people. It is a demonstration of our will to fight and win, to be always prepared so as not to be caught by surprise."

After more comments by participants that all the Cuban people are prepared to repel an attack, the narrator says: "The Cuban exercise will allow the chiefs of staff at all levels to fine tune their offensive plans; establish cooperation among the different commands; and work on ensuring combat security, practice in the terrain, and theory within the general staffs."

The FAR spokesman then says that this a true demonstration of youths' readiness for the "most sacred task" that the revolution has entrusted to them.

The narrator says that the Day of Defense is a "veritable mass mobilization of all the people integrated into the Territorial Troops Militias, the production and defense brigades, and special formations. All the militiamen strove to qualify on the shooting ranges."

He adds: "This gigantic campaign was also used to advantage for the construction of engineering projects, particularly projects for the protection of the people."

Some construction workers comment on the work they are doing, after which the narrator says: "One slogan is heard all over the country: 'They shall not pass,' and in the voices of hundreds, thousands of students, like a heartfelt repeated echo, one hears the beloved and respected name: 'Fidel.' Some of them overrun the streets, others the trenches. With youths like these, one wins."

The FAR spokesman comments further on the dedication of the youths, while scenes of the exercise are shown in the background.

Fidel Castro is then shown saying: "It is better for us to mobilize 20 times and have nothing happen, for us to mobilize 100 times and have nothing happen, than for something to happen and find us demobilized."

The FAR spokesman says: "We do not know how long this second stage will last. I believe it will depend on the situation prevailing in the region."

The film closes with Castro saying: "All this effort, all these preventive measures are the first and most important battle to attain victory. [Words indistinct] potential like Cuba, mobilized and doing what it has to do. The enemy has to think twice before attacking. And if we are prepared to give our lives, to give our all, we have to be prepared to make the effort, the sacrifices. We have to be prepared to give the sweat that is needed, that sweat that we have to invest in preparing ourselves in all ways, and in being prepared and alert. That sweat, that effort, that sacrifice is our first line of battle. That sweat and that sacrifice may spare us a great deal of bloodshed, and may even make it possible for us not to have to resort to weapons, which for us would be the greatest victory.

"Socialism or death. Fatherland or death, we will win."

U.S. Indirectly Blamed for UNITA Attack

FL0112152090 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1457 GMT 1 Dec 90

["Note" issued by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Cuba]

[Text] In the early morning hours of [date indistinct] of November, in the area of (Kunda), near to the Angolan capital, a gang of the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] members attacked a unit of the Cuban troops that are currently deployed in the areas provided for in the New York agreements carrying out missions related to the plan for the withdrawal from Angola. As a result of that criminal action, [words indistinct] located north of Parallel 13, provided for in the bilateral Cuba-People's Republic of Angola Agreement, a young FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces] First Lieutenant [name indistinct] Casamayor was killed [words indistinct].

In view of the nature of action that was perpetrated, and the (?characteristics) of the terrain in the area, there is no doubt that the attack was premeditated and planned against a unit that is made up exclusively of Cuban soldiers.

These actions by UNITA are the result of the unconditional and public support extended by the U.S. Government which assumes, by virtue of this fact, part of the responsibility. On repeated former occasions, in response to Cuba's denunciation of similar actions, the U.S. Government has pledged to exercise its influence on UNITA to bring an end to these actions. On the last occasion, in January of this year, actions of this type led Cuba and Angola to temporarily suspend the withdrawal of Cuban troops.

In view of the situation that has been created, Cuba reserves the right to take measures that it considers advisable and necessary to respond vigorously and consistently to actions of this type that are an attack on the lives of fighters who are complying strictly with the terms of the commitments made by Cuba.

The relatives of the fallen comrade and the wounded have been informed in a timely manner as is usual.

Raul Castro Presides Over Promotion Ceremony

FL0112194790 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Text] Army General Raul Castro Ruz, second secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] and minister of the FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces], presided over a ceremony held at the headquarters of the MINFAR [Ministry of the FAR] to promote 18 officials to the rank of colonel in commemoration of the 34th anniversary of the landing of the "Granma," and the day of the FAR.

On behalf of the promoted officers, Colonel Victor Fernandez voiced their commitment to continue bolstering the people's readiness for defense; and instilling feelings of respect and loyalty toward the people, the working class, the PCC, and Fidel.

The closing speech was delivered by Division General Joaquin Quintas Solas, member of the Central Committee and chief of the Central Army, who said that the promoted officers are colonels of Baragua who have dedicated their lives to the defense of the fatherland and the revolution.

Ceremony Marks 30 Years of Relations With SRV

FL0112030890 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Text] Cuba rejoices for having friends such as Vietnam. These were the words used by Jaime Crombet, vice president of the Council of Ministers Executive Committee, to describe the uninterrupted diplomatic relations between Cuba and Vietnam during a solemn ceremony held at the Juceplan [Central Planning Board] Theater in Havana to mark the 30th anniversary of the relations between our country and Vietnam. Thirty years after establishing relations, Cuba and Vietnam are defending socialism as the only way to solve their problems, said Jaime Crombet during a much-applauded speech.

The ceremony was presided over by Jorge Risquet, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Politburo. Do Van Tai, ambassador from the SRV, also spoke during the event. He said he was proud of the 30 years of fruitful diplomatic and trade relations. After highlighting the rectification process being carried out in Vietnam and Cuba, the Vietnamese diplomat noted Cuba's cooperation during Vietnam's reconstruction period.

Youth Organization Leader Ends PRC Visit

FL0112030990 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Text] Roberto Robaina, first secretary of the UJC [Union of Young Communists], and the delegation of

Cuban youths accompanying him, will end today their visit in the PRC. Our special correspondent in the Asian country sent a report.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] One of the last activities the UJC delegation carried out in Beijing was a bicycle ride through the streets of the Chinese capital. The UJC group was accompanied by Jose A. Guerra Menchero, Cuban ambassador to the PRC, and a large number of the Cuban officials and youths of the diplomatic mission in Beijing. The bicycles used were part of a representative group of those that are being sent from China to Cuba.

The Cuban youth delegation is in Guangzhou, in southern China, today. From there, they will continue to Vietnam. At the end of the bicycle ride through the streets of Beijing, the Cuban youth leader made remarks to the Cuban television.

[Robaina] Well, the main goal of the trip was, first, for the youth organization to contribute to the strengthening of ties and relations that were [words indistinct] we believe that if those relations had been established in that way, it was important for the youth organization to have an exchange in this land. This is why we are here. We made a lot of progress. We held very broad talks, especially for [words indistinct] 1991, how to get many Chinese youths to learn about our situation and how our youths can learn what is happening in China at this time.

[Reporter] If I asked you what has impressed you the most about China, what would you say?

[Robaina] I have been very impressed by the admiration and respect the people feel for our people, our cause, and for Comrade Fidel. I believe that this hospitality, this feeling that we can do many things together is one of the things that enthuses me the most. The Chinese [Great] Wall I just saw impressed me just as much. It is very impressive. You learn a lot about the Chinese Wall through books, movies, and the like, but it is very different to see it than to see it in newspapers, magazines, or [words indistinct]. It is really very impressive. It has a lot to do with the history and culture of this people. Of course, this is not only reflected in the wall, it is reflected in each one of the things (?we have seen). We are very happy and satisfied and have used our time very well. The walks and meals also turn into meetings.

[Reporter] Thank you. [end recording]

Begins Visit to Vietnam

FL0112200190 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Text] Roberto Robaina, first secretary of Cuba's Union of Young Communists and alternate member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC], today began a three-day visit to Vietnam at the invitation of that Asian country's youth organization.

Robaina and the delegation accompanying him will hold official talks with their hosts and prominent Vietnamese personalities, including Nguyen Thi Dinh, vice chairman of the Council of State.

They will also participate in a ceremony marking the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Cuba and Vietnam, which began on 2 December 1960.

Argentine Organization Condemns U.S. 'Pressure'

FL0112165590 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Text] The Coordinating Board of Solidarity with Cuba issued a call in Buenos Aires for the Argentine Government and people to reject pressure being exerted by the United States. In a public statement circulated in the past few hours, the multisector and multiparty Argentine organization charged that Washington is pressuring the governments of various Latin American countries to cut trade relations with Cuba for the purpose of isolating Cuba and strangling that country economically.

The document, which was published in the newspaper NUEVO SUR, emphasizes that Cuba is being attacked with intensive psychological warfare and provocations by the U.S. Administration.

Havana Grants Award to DPRK Technicians

FL0112163990 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1509 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Text] For having manufactured spare parts and machine tools that replace imports in the municipality of Moa, Holguin, 67 experts from the DPRK were awarded the seal of international emulation. The group from the fraternal country began to work at the Comandante Gustavo Machin nickel complex in 1989, and since then its members have repaired 22 machine tools and manufactured a threaded laminator [laminadora de rosca] and another laminator for making nails and tacks.

At present, the Korean experts are working on a machine for contact soldering that will make it possible for the country to save money on the special steel that is used for manufacturing cutting tools.

The group that is working at the nickel complex in Moa pays special attention to the manufacture of parts that replace imports, such as the steam traps [trampas de vapor] that have to be produced in series.

Inter-Caribbean Affairs

Delegates Stress Need for Regional Economic Plan

FL0112180190 Bridgetown CANA in English 1611 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Dec 1, CANA—The third Europe/Caribbean conference sponsored by the West

India Committee ended in Kingston Friday with delegates stressing the need for action to meet the challenges of a single European market in 1992.

Speaker after speaker at the plenary sessions expressed fears that the Caribbean was ill-prepared and likely to become of marginal economic importance in the face of the changing world economic order. They stressed the need to move quickly to deepen the regional integration movement in the face of threats from the single market in 1992, the emergence of trading blocs in North America and the Far East, and the changing face of Eastern Europe.

Prime Minister Maria Liberia Peters of the Netherlands Antilles echoed the cry of her Caribbean colleagues that the time for discussion had passed. She said that the governments of the region, working together with the private sector should immediately draw up an action plan for the Caribbean as a whole. Such an action plan would take account of the globalisation of many issues that had previously been thought of as solely relating to the emerging single European market.

Prime Minister Michael Manley in his opening address pointed out that while the unity of Europe posed many difficulties there were many opportunties to be explored. He urged Caribbean countries to find a "niche" in the world production cycle if they are to survive economically.

Delegates from the non-English speaking territories of the region pointed to the need for closer cooperation between both themselves and the Anglophone territories. They also pointed to the need to develop region-wide solutions to the common economic problems faced by the area's governments.

It is the existence of common economic problems and issues in all Caribbean countries which was now acting as a common denominator and as a common force for the Caribbean to become more cohesive despite language barriers, racial and social differences, and different political status, suggested Bernardo Vega, president of the Cultural Foundation of the Dominican Republic. Speaking on whether the Caribbean can come to terms with the economic and political challenges of a multilingual Caribbean, Vega said that it was absurd for the Dominican Republic and Haiti to wait to become members of the Caribbean Community (Caricom) before admitting that free trade should become a prior and essential part of their own economic relations.

Cuba's deputy minister of foreign relations Ramon Sanchez-Parodi also spoke of the need for close cooperation between countries of the region with different social and economic backgrounds.

And speaking at a press conference, the chairman of the West India Committee, Tom Chellew, argued for closer ties between governments and the regional private sector in developing an action plan for closer economic cooperation at the regional level. He promised that the West India Committee would do its part to plead the Caribbean's case through a European council. He however stressed regional governments and the private sector must work together to develop an economic plan for the area.

Antigua and Barbuda

Government Wants Arms Case in Appeals Court

FL3011235390 Bridgetown CANA in English 2252 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Text] St. John's, Antigua, Nov. 30, CANA—The Antigua Government said on Friday it wanted a case relating to an arms scandal back on the hearing list of the Eastern Caribbean Court of Appeal. The case was dropped by the court "for want of prosecution," the Ministry of Legal Affairs reported Friday. "An application has been made to the Court of Appeal to have the matter restored to the hearing list," it said.

The Antigua Government had moved to the appeal court to challenge a ruling by high court Judge Horace Mitchell, barring it from seeking overseas testimony as it probed a 1989 illegal purchase of arms and ammunition from Israel and their trans-shipment through St. John's to Colombian drug-dealers. The original case had been brought by former Minister Vere Bird Jr., who had been implicated in the scandal.

In its statement, the Ministry of Legal Affairs said the government here had sought more time to ppresent its case. It said: "The matter which was not down for argument was before the court on an application for an enlargement of time within which to file the records of appeal." It added, "this application had to be made because the judge's notes of evidence which forms part of the record was not available within the prescribed time."

"Counsel for the attorney general who was present in court earlier that day (Thursday) was not feeling well and had gone to seek relief at that time (of the hearing)," the release noted.

Haiti

CEP Prohibits Publication of Election Surveys

FL3011193590 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1400 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Text] The Provisional Electoral Council [CEP] points out that several articles of the Electoral Law prohibit the press from publishing information regarding election surveys and polls. In order to avoid any attempt at manipulating voters and in anticipation of a panic due to rumors or false information, the CEP takes special measures beforehand regarding the dissemination of election surveys and polls. Article 103 of the Electoral Law, in agreement with Article 139.1, prohibits the press from publishing information on survey trends from the

beginning of the voting process until the Voting and Registration Bureaus announce the results of the balloting.

Father Aristide Campaigns in Artibonite Valley

FL0112163590 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1700 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Text] Father Jean-Bertrand Aristide, leader of the National Front for Change and Democracy [FNCD], visited the Artibonite Valley on 28 November. The Artibonite rose up to receive the FNCD leader, Father Jean-Bertrand Aristide. From L'Esther through Carrefour-Dedune, Villate, Pont-Sonde [various communes in Artibonite], thousands of people gathered on the roadside to cheer the FNCD candidates with drums and bamboo.

At about 1630, it was total joy for thousands of people gathered in Portail-Guepe waiting for the leader's arrival at the north entrance of the city of Saint-Marc. Once the leader arrived, the crowd chanted: "Americans, Haiti is not the Dominican Republic;" "Bazin if you are around, you must leave;" "In a few days we will vote for Aristide."

While riding in a green Izuzu pickup, the leader held a bouquet of hibiscus in his hands and smiled at the people as he traveled to the La Liberte Boulevard, where another crowd was waiting for him to deliver a message. Several FNCD leaders—such as Evans Picot, candidate for Parliament, and Eddy Dubiton, candidate for Senate—gave speeches. They thanked the crowd for its participation without asking for money or alcohol. The father then gave a talk in which he defined the word "avalanche." He asked all other political parties searching for democracy, referring to National Alliance for Democracy and Progress [ANDP], to come together, just as rivers and to fall into the avalanche.

Father Jean-Bertrand Aristide did not forget to ask for reconciliation with murderers who wanted to kill him in Pont-Sonde and Pressino. He also invited all zenglendos to come drink the avalanche water. The day before the rally, several democratic organizations, in spite of the threats going around in the city early that morning, joined the Army in guarding the stand where the leader gave his speech. Security has been assured. Father Aristide was in good hands with the military.

It is to be noted that about 20 ANDP flags were flying on La Liberte Boulevard. Many observers, however, especially those close to ANDP, said that Aristide is the only candidate that has sought to compete with the ANDP on its own ground.

Aristide Supporters Visit 1987 Massacre Site

FL3011214390 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1200 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Excerpt] Several thousand people participated in a demonstration yesterday morning to honor those who were slaughtered on Vaillant Street on election day three years ago. Two presidential candidates also spent a special moment there. They were Louis Dejoie, leader of the National Agricultural and Industrial Party, and Father Jean-Bertrand Aristide, the leader of the National Front for Change and Democracy [FNCD].

[Begin recording] [Crowd chanting] [Unidentified speaker] Whatever happens, whether there are crooked wheelings and dealings or not, Aristide will be president.

[Reporter] We will not say whether there were 10,000 or 15,000 present. Let us say instead that if everyone attending the demonstration—beginning at Champ-de-Mars [a public square near the National Palace] and continuing past the Faculty of Sciences, up Lalue [John Brown Avenue], curving to Vaillant Street—if each had picked up a bit of trash with their hands, the streets of Port-au-Prince would have been cleaned at the same time.

From 1000 on, Vaillant Street was packed with people holding tree branches. They were chanting, singing their candidates' praises, satirizing other candidates, including those who were no longer running since their disqualification by the Provisional Electoral Council.

About 1130, a car arrived with a live fighting cock that appeared to be well cared for, with sun-dried feathers [and groomed with] lemon and ginger. A demonstrator even shouted that the war was not that important—to warrant such an excellent fighting cock.

It was Jean-Bertrand Aristide who arrived walking behind the fighting cock. He held a bouquet of red flowers that he planned to place at Argentine Bellegarde School, on the site of the voting bureau where many voters were massacred on 29 November 1987. It was not easy to approach Jean-Bertrand Aristide to ask him the meaning of this avalanche of people on the Port-au-Prince streets; on 29 November 1990, under FNCD's watchword.

The demonstrators chanted that there is no doubt, no question—whether wanted or not—if there are crooked wheelings and dealings: 16 December is it. They did not give further details. They addressed the United Nations and the OAS. They asked them to assume their responsibilities and to observe well. They addressed George Bush and Jimmy Carter, to tell them that Haiti is not the Dominican Republic.

Around 1330, the demonstrators left Vaillant Street. They completely filled Lalue where traffic was stalled. When they arrived before the National Bank of Paris, the demonstrators curved onto Lamarre Street, passed by the old headquarters of the National Archives office, and continued up to Bel-Air. [end recording] [passage omitted]

ANDP Candidates Organize Champ-de-Mars Rally

FL0112185590 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1700 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Excerpts] Three National Alliance for Democracy and Progress [ANDP] candidates for the Senate, among them Arnold Antonin, are organizing a rally this afternoon in the Champ-de-Mars area [public park near the National Palace]. Arnold Antonin explains the meaning of such an event.

[Begin Antonin recording] This event is a break with the traditional election climate, where only presidential candidates campaign. We think that in a modern election campaign, there should be great participation of young people who want changes without being committed to any political parties. We think that those young people are deeply concerned. For example, all young people would like free elections to be held in Haiti without the repetition of the bloody events of 29 November 1987. Therefore, the first reason for this event is for there not to be another 29 November.

The second reason is so young people who do not belong to any political parties, or who are in the Nationalistic and Progressive Revolutionary Party of Haiti, the Movement for the Establishment of Democracy, the National Patriotic Movement of 28 November, and several people from the popular zones, can show their solidarity with the people of South Africa as well as with Nelson Mandela. DP Express, a musical group, will add cheer to the event, so it is to be a demonstration of joy. [passage omitted]

There will be great musical participation and fun. Two movies will be shown. One will be about South Africa, and the other on how people use magic to mislead people in election campaigns. There will also be speeches on the role of the youth that I, as well as Mrs. Lafontant Joseph and Dr. Paul Demostene [names as heard], will give. It will be from 1400 to 2100. We think that many young people will attend to express their willingness for changes in Haiti. [end recording]

PAIN Leader Dejoie Campaigns in Port-de-Paix

FL0112150790 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1200 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Report by unidentified correspondent in Port-de-Paix—recorded]

[Text] On Thursday [29 November], the city of Port-de-Paix was visited by Louis Dejoie II, leader and presidential candidate in the 16 December elections for the National Agricultural and Industrial Party [PAIN].

In addressing his partisans in Capois-la-Mort Square, Dejoie declared that one of the major points included in his social program was the plan to guide and help the peasants with land policies as this is the only source the country can exploit these days. Many people applauded the PAIN leader when he said that he would form an alliance with the National Front for Change and Democracy if he did not succeed on the second balloting of the elections. He also said that his partisans could vote for Father Aristide. Dejoie declared that if he is successful in the elections, Father Aristide will certainly participate in his government. Dejoie forcefully asserted to those listening to him that the macoutes are excluded from the elections this year.

Jamaica

Editorial Urges Peaceful Solution to Gulf Crisis

FL3011204390 Bridgetown CANA in English 1941 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Nov 30, CANA—The Jamaica RECORD newspaper said on Friday it was not convinced that the Persian Gulf crisis could not be peacefully resolved. It was commenting on the United Nations Security Council's passing of a draft resolution Thursday sanctioning the use of force against Iraq over its invasion of Kuwait.

In an editorial, the paper said, there should be no doubt that "the decision by the United Nations to go to war" will have far-reaching implications for the entire world.

"Moreover, we are not convinced that all attempts for a peaceful resolution of the issue have been exhausted," the paper said.

"It is true that time is running out but there is still plenty of room for negotiations before armed conflict begins.

"The United States military supported by its Western allies can bomb Iraq and reduce Baghdad to rubble. But those who believe that such action will solve the conflict are fooling themselves."

The paper said those supporting war must realise that "long after the last shot is fired the entire Middle East will remain an area of political and economic instability unheard of since the 1967 Arab-Israeli war and the world economy which is already on the brink of recession will get worst."

It warned that Third World non-oil producing countries would "sink even further in to economic stagnation" while manufacturers of arms will thrive.

St. Christopher and Nevis

Simmonds Sends Congratulatory Message to Major

FL3011195990 Bridgetown CANA in English 1910 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Text] Basseterre, St. Kitts, Nov 30, CANA—St. Kitts and Nevis prime minister, Dr. Kennedy Simmonds, has sent a congratulatory message to new British Prime

Minister John Major. Major on Tuesday became Britain's youngest prime minister this century, beating main contenders Michael Heseltine and Douglas Hurd to succeed Margaret Thatcher.

While extending best wishes to Major in the face of what he called "these challenging times," Simmonds expressed the hope that the trust and friendship between Britain and the twin-island federation would be further deepened. St. Kitts and Nevis, a former British colony gained its independence in 1983.

Minister Willing To Discuss Trade With JMA

FL0112200090 Bridgetown CANA in English 1818 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Report by Linda Hutchinson]

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, Dec 1, CANA—Trinidad and Tobago's Industry Minister Dr. Bhoe Tewarie says if Goodyear Jamaica asks for a review of the decision here to deny a licence for the importation of Jamaica-made tyres he will comply. He said getting into controversy with the Jamaica Manufacturers Association (JMA) would be "unnecessary."

The association called for the immediate imposition of trade restrictions on all goods coming from Trinidad and Tobago, following the refusal of the Trinidadian authorities to grant an import licence for Jamaican-made tyres. Dr. Tewarie said a permit to import more Jamaican-made tyres was denied on the ground that the quota to import 100,000 tyres for this year was "exhausted."

He told the CANA: I don't want to get into any controversy with the Jamaican Manufacturers Association or with the chairman of that association or with Goodyear because I think it is unnecessary.

"If Goodyear thinks that we should review our decision, we are prepared to do it. That is not a problem.

"What I'm concerned about is what seems to be a strategy to build up public opinion against Trinidad and Tobago's policies."

He said Trinidad and Tobago is committed to free trade in the Caribbean Community (Caricom) area. The minister said he was willing to meet with the JMA and Goodyear for "open discussions" on trade.

He added, "I'm prepared to discuss the matter of trade also on a government to government level and open up discussion in areas where the Jamaicans feel it is necessary and to work in terms of our own exports to Jamaica."

He said the president of JMA should not be "upset" because Trinidad and Tobago's balance of trade was "doing well." He said the call by the JMA for the immediate imposition of trade on all Trinidadian goods into Jamaica is not a decision to be taken by manufacturers.

"I think the Jamaican Government is as committed to free Caricom trade and Caribbean unity as we are," Tewarie told CANA.

Trinidad and Tobago

Venezuela Rescinds National Fisheries Deal

FL3011180690 Bridgetown CANA in English 1646 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, Nov. 30, CANA—Venezuela has pulled out of a deal with Trinidad and Tobago under which the South American state was to become a joint partner in the state-owned National Fisheries Company, the GUARDIAN reported on Friday. National Fisheries has been plagued with controversy since the government announced plans to divest some 49 percent of its holdings in a joint venture arrangement.

Last April, Prime Minister A.N.R Robinson and Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez signed a "Memorandum of Understanding" which covered possible Venezuelan participation in the venture, pending negotiations.

The GUARDIAN, quoting sources, said the deal had "fallen through after many long months of negotiations." Four bidders, including a local company, and a consortium comprising Taiwanese, Japanese, and local interests, had put in bids to become joint venture partners in the company.

The GUARDIAN said with the collapse of the deal, a new partner was being sought by the government.

PRI Presents Three Programmatic Documents

PA3011223190 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 1300 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Report by Jorge Tenorio Jimenez]

[Text] The National Executive Committee of the PRI [Institutional Revolutionary Party] has revealed the new basic documents that will regulate party life beginning on 3 January 1991. The statutes, Action Program, and Declaration of Principles were all amended. These documents include 28 amendments. There was also a reduction in the number of articles from 214 to 187.

The Declaration of Principles is a brief and clear document to ensure that party members will comprehend the PRI principles, and the Action Program is a document that commits the PRI to take the country's situation into account.

The role of the National Political Council is defined in the amendments; it will be tasked with handling the PRI's political strategies. The amendments also clarify the members' rights and duties, and they establish the requirements for the selection of candidates for elections.

ANIERM Head Supports Free Trade Agreement

PA0312033090 Mexico City XHTV Television in Spanish 0200 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Text] The National Association of Importers and Exporters of Mexico [ANIERM] has expressed its viewpoint regarding the free trade agreement between Mexico and the United States.

ANIERM President (Ernesto Van Hols) said that the free trade agreement between Mexico and the United States is an alternative to Mexico's economic development.

[Begin (Van Hols) recording] It is of course a very important step that we have to take. It is an alternative for the country's development. The agreement will attract foreign investment in particular. These investors will be here in the country and they will manufacture products that will be exported to the United States. [end recording]

(Van Hols) added that there is optimism regarding the signing of the free trade agreement, and he said that increased investment and technology will provide more jobs for the Mexican people. The ANIERM leader said that Mexican exports will have to be more competitive and of a better quality.

[Begin (Van Hols) recording] We are truly convinced that the agreement is a step forward. Obviously, some people will be affected by it, but I believe the country in general will make great progress in its growth and development. [end recording]

(Van Hols) said that Mexican industries that are inefficient and fail to manufacture quality products run the risk of disappearing.

CPV Official Rejects Intervention in Gulf

PA0112045390 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0122 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Text] Mexico City, 30 Nov (NOTIMEX) - Trinh Ngoc Thai, leader [as received] of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV], said that the Persian Gulf conflict must be solved by the countries involved and that no intervention is viable even if it is approved by the United Nations.

During an interview at the international airport in Mexico City, before leaving for Vietnam, Ngoc Thai said that an intervention is not justifiable even if it is endorsed by the United Nations despite the fact that in over four months a solution to the problem has not been found.

The communist leader stressed that Vietnam will not support any resolution to end the Persian Gulf conflict unless it does so through concerted efforts and peaceful means.

Ngoc Thai said that the Arab countries are mature enough to find a solution to this problem, which has caused food shortages, uncertainty, and, in many cases, the death of its citizens.

The leader of the Communist Party of Vietnam, who participated in the first international meeting of Latin American communist parties—held in Mexico city—expressed his hope that Iraq will reconsider its position regarding Kuwait before 15 January 1991 so that no foreign nation will intervene in the conflict.

Referring to the meeting of the communist parties, Ngoc Thai said that, as an observer, he could tell that this ideology is gaining strength in Latin America despite the problems experienced by countries such as Cuba.

The socialist world, particularly Eastern Europe, has had a number of problems which have forced the Soviet Union to open its economy and Germany to tear down the Berlin Wall. This does not mean, however, that socialism has grown weak or that it is disappearing, as former Colombian president Belisario Betancur said.

Ngoc Thai said that the changes that have taken place in socialist countries only remind us that each country has different problems and that, some times, problems force countries to change their courses, but not their ideologies.

Socialism will bloom in the long run because it is the only way to attain democracy and peace in the world. These will be the bases for the economic development of all nations.

Costa Rica

Calderon Voices Support for UN Iraq Resolution

PA3011141890 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1225 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Text] President Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier has expressed his support for the UN Security Council resolution establishing 15 January as the deadline for the Iraqi Government to withdraw from Kuwait. The president said that this resolution reaffirms what the United Nations is and confirms the fervent desire of a majority of the world's nations to achieve peace, reject violence, and condemn those who use violence to violate the rights of other citizens in the world.

This UN Security Council resolution represents world unity against a madman in the Middle East who is jeopardizing world peace, President Calderon said. He pointed out that this UN position could lead to one of two things: One is that war will break out and this conflict, which would have consequences for the entire world, will end in a few days. The other—and help us God, because it is what we hope will happen—is that it will make this madman realize that the best thing he can do is withdraw from Kuwait, return to his nation, and allow the rest of the world to live in peace.

El Salvador

Ponce Says FMLN Must Prove Assassination Plan

PA0112010290 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 1339 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Italicized passages are recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] Defense Minister Colonel Rene Emilio Ponce has challenged the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] to produce evidence of an alleged plan by the government to attack the country's political opposition. The FMLN (?reported) this plan recently, saying that the government is planning to murder political, religious, and trade union leaders both in the country and abroad. Col. Ponce said that this is a dirty campaign unleashed by the guerrillas, who must prove their statements, especially before the United Nations.

[Ponce] *[Passage indistinct] They must present conclusive evidence of the plan's existence. [Words indistinct] The government has flatly rejected the existence of any such plan within the Armed Forces. [passage indistinct]*

[Announcer] The Defense Minister also accused the FMLN of violating the confidentiality of the negotiations by constantly (?expressing) an opinion on the negotiating process. Ponce regarded as positive a possible cease-fire for the end of the year, a step that, he added, should be appreciated by all sectors.

[Ponce] *It would be a good idea to give the Salvadoran people a break from the violence by establishing a cease-fire during the holiday season at the end of the year [words indistinct].*

[Announcer] The defense minister interpreted the Central American presidents' request to the United Nations to end the offensive—which began on 20 November—as a political blow against the rebels. According to Ponce, the international pressure should make the FMLN change its stance at the negotiating table.

[Ponce] *The FMLN must (?take into consideration) the political cost of this new offensive against the Salvadoran people [words indistinct] the UN secretary general's personal attention so the FMLN can end the hostilities in El Salvador [words indistinct] inviting the FMLN to stop this offensive [words indistinct].*

[Announcer] The defense minister said that the Armed Forces, as an institution, supports the government at the negotiating table. The minister called for political agreements which will lead to peace in the country. The Army, he said, will honor these agreements.

FMLN Vows 'Military Reply' To Army Attacks

PA3011194890 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Communique issued by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) General Command on 28 November—read by announcer]

[Text] As long as there are military operations by the Armed Forces, there will be a military reply from our army.

1. The government of Alfredo Cristiani and its Armed Forces maintain a permanent policy of provocations and aggression through incursions, operations, and invasions into FMLN territory, persecution of civilians in disputed areas, and repression and psychological war in the cities. At the time the current military campaign began, the Armed Forces had begun its bombings and operations with the Arce Battalion in Morazan, Bracamonte Battalion in Chalatenango, Belloso Battalion in Guazapa, and Atonal Battalion in El Tigre Hill, Usulutan.

2. The government and the Armed Forces are trying to appear in their propaganda as victims. They persecute, kill, bomb, invade, cry, and receive a military reply from the FMLN. As long as the policy of aggression continues, our National Army for Democracy will act in legitimate defense with military replies to the provocations from the Armed Forces.

3. If the government does not want any more FMLN military campaigns, it must recognize that its Armed Forces have lost large areas of territory and many municipalities. It must stop invading, bombing, or pressuring the disputed zones, and must stop repression in

the cities. If it wants to prevent a large-scale offensive, it should negotiate seriously and accept that the Armed Forces must be abolished.

Before the war, the Armed Forces persecuted and massacred the grass-roots sectors. Crimes such as the murder of Monsignor Romero, leaders of the FDR [Revolutionary Democratic Front], and U.S. nuns showed the world what the Salvadoran Armed Forces were capable of doing. The people rose up in arms and created their guerrilla army. Then the Armed Forces bombed towns, burned houses and crops, and destroyed whole communities under the scorched earth policy.

Our guerrilla army defeated and dislodged the Armed Forces from extensive territories. Several thousand square kilometers and several dozen municipalities passed on to the FMLN's political and military authority. The dual power was also extended to disputed areas, and was noticeable in the main Salvadoran cities.

At present, incapable of recovering the territories under FMLN control, the Armed Forces are maintaining a policy of military operations, invading our territories, searching for our command posts and hospitals to attack them, bombing the civilian population, and destroying their crops and houses.

Repression and persecution are fierce in the disputed areas. The grass-roots labor and democratic organizations are accused of being front organizations in a propaganda campaign to justify repression. At the same time, the government and the Armed Forces are maintaining a constant campaign of psychological war with false reports on alleged divisions within the FMLN, terrorist attacks, attacks against the civilian population, planting of mines, and so forth. The psychological war violates the right that all Salvadorans have to make a political analysis based on reality.

Despite their inability to stop our military campaign or possible offensives, the Armed Forces proclaim the FMLN's alleged weakness. They are mistaken if they think they will stop us with propaganda. As long as the repression against grass-roots organizations, the military operations against our territories, and the psychological war continue, they will receive a reply from us.

[Signed] FMLN General Command
28 November 1990

Rebel Commander: FMLN To Continue Offensive

PA0112034990 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0056 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Text] Usulutan, El Salvador, 30 Nov (NOTIMEX)—The Salvadoran guerrillas said here today that their fundamental objective is to find a political solution to the war. They announced, however, that they will continue to promote their military campaign that began 10 days ago.

Interviewed in one of the most militarily active areas of the country since the rebel's military campaign began, Commander Raul from the Francisco Sanchez southeastern front, said, "Our main goal is not to achieve a complete military victory."

In the city of Usulutan, 110 km from the capital, Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) units have been conducting military actions not only against the Army's ground forces, but also against the Air Force.

For the first time in 10 years of war, these same units—which have been fighting since 20 November—shot down an A-37 fighter bomber with a surface-to-air missile. Last Friday, the bomber had flown to the area to provide support for the troops that were being attacked by the guerrillas.

According to the commander, during the military campaign called "Punishment for the Antidemocratic Armed Forces," an O-2 small plane and a helicopter gunship were also shot down in this area. A C-47 plane and another helicopter gunship were also damaged.

Commander Raul explained that the limited offensive launched by the FMLN has produced "important victories." He insisted, however, that the greatest victory lies in the fact that with the military actions "we are strengthening our position at the negotiating table."

Asked if this new rebel strategy stems from the changes that have taken place in the international community in the last few months, the guerrilla leader said, "Let us say we are just being realistic."

"We know that the world today does not necessarily force one to suffer overwhelming military defeats so that there is more room for democracy, thereby allowing our people to have a better future," he said.

The "negotiations' success," according to the guerrilla commander who is responsible for the Usulutan area, "can become a reality in our country. That is why we believe that a political solution can change the situation in our country."

The new rebel maneuver, launched during the bogged down negotiations held by both sides under the supervision of the United Nations, has been described by President Alfredo Cristiani as a new obstacle to peace.

Raul replied to this charge by saying only: "We are in a time of war." He warned that "as long as a political agreement is not reached, it is our duty as an army to carry out the necessary defensive or offensive actions to continue the war."

The duration of the offensive, which—as the FMLN has reiterated—"is of a limited nature," has not yet been defined. "We have not yet received instructions to end this operation. We are making tactical adjustments to continue the hostilities," Raul said.

Regarding the achievements of the men he commands, Raul mentioned the following: "We have bled white the 6th Infantry Brigade and Atonal Battalion troops. We have established areas of confrontation that have become places of honor, and we have forced the enemy to reorganize themselves."

Military sources have reported, however, that the Army dislodged the rebels from Santa Elena, near Usulutan, where fighting raged on for several days. Raul said that this "dislodgement" is part of the FMLN's strategy.

"We have increased our intimidation tactics. We have been shifting the positions of several units, and we have struck the enemy while pretending to retreat," he said.

Regarding the number of casualties, the commander reported that during the Tuesday clashes alone the Army sustained about 20 casualties. He added: "The most important thing, however, is the demoralization of the enemy troops."

According to Raul, the increase in the FMLN's attacks "has nothing to do with the guerrillas' unwillingness" to put an end to the war that has caused 75,000 civilian casualties in one decade.

"We must consider our actions in the context of war. It is in this framework that our General Command will determine the military efforts we will have to make as our contribution to the political process," Raul concluded.

Army Denies Helicopter Downed by Guerrillas

PA0112044890 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0124 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Text] San Salvador, 30 Nov (NOTIMEX)—The Salvadoran Army denied today that guerrillas shot down a helicopter in Suchitoto, as they claimed this morning. The Army did admit that it suffered five casualties during two attacks today.

The Armed Forces Press Committee [Coprefa] said that "no helicopter or military aircraft has been shot down near Suchitoto (Cuscatlan) or any other place in Salvadoran territory on 29 November."

The source, in a communique this afternoon, admitted that two Bracamonte Battalion soldiers were wounded this morning when urban commandos hurled an explosive device at a military truck in the center of San Salvador.

In this attack, nine civilians, including four minors, were wounded by shrapnel, the Coprefa communique added.

Finally, Coprefa confirmed that one soldier was killed and two were wounded today after guerrillas hurled dynamite at an armored personnel carrier, which was totally destroyed near the National University in northern San Salvador.

Guerrillas Attack Hydroelectric Dams

PA0212014190 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2333 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Text] San Salvador, 1 Dec (NOTIMEX)— Official sources have confirmed here that the Salvadoran guerrillas attacked two hydroelectric dams in northern El Salvador today, reducing one dam to half its operational capacity.

Official spokesmen confirmed at the site of the incident that the Five November Dam, located between Chalatenango and Cabanas Departments, suffered damage estimated at $800,000 with the total destruction of one of its 115,000-volt transformers.

Nelson Quijada, the official in charge of the shift at the dam, confirmed that the attack—carried out using artillery fire—affected 50 percent of the production capacity, 75 megawatts, and left vast sectors of the country without energy.

He explained that the attack, carried out by a Farabundo Marti National Liberation (FMLN) group, also damaged switches and other dam equipment.

The FMLN claimed responsibility for the attack in a communique read over a local radio station. It stated that this "strategic sabotage is part of a maneuver called November Heroes," in reference to the rebels killed during last year's offensive.

Colonel Sigifredo Ochoa, president of the state-owned CEL [Lempa River Hydroelectric Executive Commission], said that "it is impossible to replace the destroyed generator right now" because it has to be ordered from Germany.

"This damage was not done to CEL or the government, but to the Salvadoran people, who are tired of so much irrational violence and the terrorism of the FMLN warmongers," Ochoa said.

CEL technicians were working early today in an effort to restore the service in the affected areas through interconnections in the system.

The Armed Forces Press Office reported that troops from Military Detachment No. 1, who were in charge of protecting the dam, exchanged heavy gunfire with the rebels, but it did not report any casualties or the damage that had been caused.

CEL confirmed that the Cerron Grande hydroelectric plant, the largest in the country, was also a guerrilla target. It did not, however, disclose the extent of the damage done to it.

Through a communique, the government of Alfredo Cristiani condemned the attack and again accused the FMLN of "lacking the will to find an overall and final solution to the armed confrontation."

The document stressed: "Despite these FMLN provocations, the government maintains its determination to continue the talks."

According to the document, in 10 years of war, the FMLN has caused the CEL to lose approximately $45 million in 5,665 sabotage acts of varying degrees of importance.

Military spokesmen reported that in the past few hours, FMLN urban groups destroyed two transformers and four energy posts in different parts of the city.

A 12-year-old girl was hurt in one of these attacks. She was wounded by shrapnel from explosives placed in the San Miguelito neighborhood in northern San Salvador, the source added.

The spokesmen also said that five guerrillas were wounded during clashes in Santa Ana, in western El Salvador, and in San Miguel and Morazan, in the country's eastern region in the past few hours.

Plant Attack Called 'Cruel' Terrorism

PA0212171790 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1611 GMT 2 Dec 90

[Text] San Salvador, 2 Dec (ACAN-EFE)—The Salvadoran Government today condemned a guerrilla attack on the "5 November" Hydroelectrical Plant located between the Departments of Chalatenango and Cabanas. The attack left no victims, but caused property damage estimated at $800,000.

On a radio and television network today, the government described as a "cruel act of terrorism" the sabotage carried out in the early morning hours of 1 December by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) against the hydroelectrical plant.

"Neither water nor electricity should be military targets here or anywhere. Depriving civilians of water and electricity is a cruel act of terrorism by FMLN fanatics," the government stressed.

Meanwhile, the guerrillas claimed responsibility for the attack that was carried out from a distance of 1 km using 81-mm mortars and RPG-7 rockets, stating that it is part of a military campaign.

The Lempa River Hydroelectric Executive Commission (CEL) said that the attack was launched with "highly destructive weapons" and announced new electricity cutoffs.

The "5 November" Dam was also attacked on 10 May 1988, when guerrillas entered the facilities and planted bombs in the generators.

Soldier Killed in FMLN Attack; Tank Destroyed

PA3011223090 Paris AFP in Spanish 2122 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Text] San Salvador, 30 Nov (AFP)—The Rescue Corps reported today that the Salvadoran guerrillas destroyed a light tank near the National University in northern San Salvador. One soldier was killed and two were wounded in the violent clash.

The light tank, belonging to the artillery brigade, was completely destroyed by a powerful explosive charge that was apparently hurled from a moving vehicle. A few minutes later the leftist Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) claimed credit for the attack.

The explosion sent cartridge belts and parts of the soldiers' uniforms into tree branches and onto the rooftops of nearby residences.

Another light tank and an armored vehicle were sent to the scene of the clash. The attackers fled, however, without a trace. The National University located in the sector suspended classes in view of the ensuing alarm.

The Rescue Corps also reported a dynamite attack on a vehicle carrying policemen near the central market in San Salvador. In their attack, which left four civilians wounded, the rebels failed to destroy the vehicle.

The FMLN claimed responsibility for destroying the tank near the university, saying that the Army "suffered six casualties" in the attack.

Rebel Radio Reports on FMLN-Army Clashes

PA0312034390

[Editorial Report] (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to EL Salvador at 0000 GMT on 28 November broadcasts 20-minutes of reports on clashes between the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, FMLN, forces and Salvadoran Army troops between 25 and 27 November.

The first report comes from the Anastacio Aquino Paracentral Front and says that on 26 November "forces of the National Army for Democracy carried out the Commander Dimas, We Swear We Will Win To Take Vengeance for Your Blood operation within the framework of the Punish the Antidemocratic Armed Forces campaign." The report adds that the operation included clashes with Salvadoran Army Artillery Battalion troops in Tecoluca Jurisdiction, where the FMLN forces inflicted 28 army casualties "including one lieutenant, one subsergeant, one corporal, and two radio communicators. In addition, we seized the following war materiel: 12 M-16 rifles, one PRC-77 radio, five backpacks, one 9-mm pistol, eight sets of ammunition for M-16 rifles, and medicine."

The next report says that "National Army for Democracy forces inflicted seven casualties on the Cayahuanca Battallion troops in clashes that took place in Dulce

Nombre de Maria Jurisdiction, Chalatenango Department on 26 and 27 November."

The last report comes from the Modesto Ramirez Central Front and indicates that on 26 November FMLN sappers "blew up" 17 power towers at Las Cuchillas and Cerron Grande, Cabanas Department.

San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish at 1830 GMT on 28 November carries an Armed Forces Press Committee bulletin which include FMLN actions conducted on 27 and 28 November. The report says that "four terrorists were killed as a result of clashes with the 1st Infantry Brigade troops in Guazapa Jurisdiction, San Salvador Department on 27 November." The same report adds that army troops confiscated two AK-47 rifles, one LAW rocket launcher, four explosives, one radio, and other war materiel.

Radio Venceremos at 0000 GMT on 30 November broadcasts 10 minutes of battle reports, including one that says the National Army for Democracy forces conducted a one-hour artillery attack on national guard units in Sesori, San Miguel Department at 0200 on 29 November, inflicting "two enemy casualties."

Rebel Radio Reportage on Clashes

PA0112203990 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Editorial Report] (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador at 0000 GMT on 1 December broadcasts a six-minute battle report saying that on the afternoon of 30 November, National Army for Democracy troops clashed with antidemocratic Armed Forces in the town of Ocotillo, Cacaopera Municipality, Morazan Department. In the clash a UH-1H helicopter was damaged. The report adds that the damaged helicopter managed to fly away from the area and the rebels were urged to "turn each helicopter into a coffin."

The report adds that during the afternoon of 29 November National Army for Democracy units seized control of the towns of La Reina and Agua Caliente in Chalatenango Department and conducted propaganda activities. The report further states that on 27 November at 0200 our troops inflicted 11 casualties on the enemy after an attack on the headquarters of the Sierpe Battalion, also in Chalatenango.

The report adds that on 30 November at 0800 National Army for Democracy troops clashed with Atonal Battalion troops in the town of Los Horcones, inflicting six casualties "on the troops of the antidemocratic Armed Forces." This report adds that our forces seized equipment, two backpacks, and several M-60 cartridge belts after enemy troops fled in disarray. "On 29 November at 0700," the report says, our troops "clashed with Atonal Battalion troops in Saldana Estate, Usulutan Department, inflicting two casualties on the enemy."

The report says that on 29 November at 0430, National Army for Democracy units attacked troops of the 3d Brigade in La Pabaya village, Lolotique Municipality, San Miguel Department, inflicting three casualties on the enemy, who were evacuated by helicopter. The report concludes that "given the Army's inability to contain our revolutionary fire," the enemy forces requested air support from two gunship helicopters, which rocketed heavily populated area, thus endangering the civilian population.

Roundup of Latest FMLN Activities

PA0212025490

[Editorial Report] San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish at 0300 GMT on 29 November airs 10 minutes of reports on Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) attacks at various locations. The first report covers the FMLN attack on the La Esperanza Penal Center at Mariona. The report says that "the attack began at approximately 2300 on 27 November, with mortar and rifle fire, leaving at least five people dead, including soldiers and inmates. Nine inmates and civilians were also wounded. Witnesses say that the attack was from three different points and that the guerrillas' intention was to free as many prisoners as possible."

The second report is about a car bombing incident in the San Jacinto neighborhood, San Salvador. Quoting "official sources," the annoucer says that a private home caught fire following the explosion. One person was wounded. The report also says that "three power poles were blown up with dynamite in Santa Cristina neighborhood and on the corner of Toluca Street in the Escalante neighborhood. The attacks took place between 1800 and 1830 today."

The third report is about the death of two civilians by FMLN guerrillas during an attack against army positions in Colon Jurisdiction, La Libertad Department. The announcer says that "the Red Cross has confirmed the death of Wendy Flores, six, and Susana Hernandez, who were struck by gunfire during a clash near Los Chorros tourist center." The announcer adds that the Armed Forces has reported the death of four guerrillas who clashed on 27 November with 1st Infantry Brigade soldiers at Guazapa Jurisdiction.

The last report is about two civilians who were wounded on 27 November during an attack by FMLN urban commandos against a local army garrison at Planes de Renderos. The station says that "urban commandos hurled an explosive device last night at the Planes de Renderos local command garrison. Four unidentified persons arrived at about 1900 and immediately attacked the guard on duty with explosives." The announcer adds that the "guerrillas straffed with machine-gun fire an electric transformer on 31st South Avenue and the old railroad street and another transformer in the Mejicanos neighborhood."

San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish at 1345 GMT on 29 November cites an "official spokesman" in

a report on three FMLN clashes with 3d Infantry Brigade's Leon Battalion troops that left 31 soldiers dead, 52 wounded, and three guerrillas dead and eight wounded. The report adds that the clashes took place near La Joya Canton, Santa Elena Jurisdiction, Usulutan Department. Another clash took place at the Colombia farm and near the Colombia and Granadilla farms—both located in La Joya Canton as well. The report then says that "the guerrillas attempted to harass 1st Infantry Brigade's Metropoli Battalion positions at about 2130. The guerrillas fought at Tres Caminos Canton, San Ramon Jurisdiction, and apparently their intention was to attack the local army garrison.

UDN Urges Political Answer in Concerted Effort

PA3011181290 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] In a communique issued today, the UDN [National Democratic Union] declared that it is convinced that the solution to the conflict must be a political and negotiated solution. It added that the way must be paved to permit a concerted effort among all the sectors. It is imperative to create a favorable climate for the negotiations, and both the government and the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] must work to obtain agreements as soon as possible regarding demilitarization, the UDN leaders stated.

The UDN called on all the social and political forces interested in a negotiated solution to close ranks and pronounce themselves in defense of the people's achievements and political spaces that have been gained. In the same way, it called on all the forces to manifest themselves in every way at this crossroads to pave the way for a national consensus. Only the unity of all will achieve total demilitarization, real democracy, and social justice, the UDN stated.

Catholic Church Denounces FMLN Violence

PA3011172890 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 26 Nov 90 p 61

[Text] In his homily yesterday Monsignor Gregorio Rosa Chavez, auxiliary bishop of San Salvador, said that the violent actions of the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] in the midst of the festivities to honor the Virgin of Peace constituted a slap in the face for the Salvadoran people's hopes of attaining peace.

He added that such actions prompted Archbishop Arturo Rivera y Damas to suspend a pilgrimage to San Miguel.

Msgr. Rosa Chavez recalled the archbishopric's position that was revealed, coincidentally, on 20 November, when the FMLN launched its war offensive.

The archbishopric disagrees with the offensive because it deviates from the path leading to concerted agreement and punishes those who have suffered the consequences of the conflict and been forced to leave their homes to seek refuge.

He added that the most affected victims, such as the residents of Apopa and adjacent areas, have been assisted.

The monsignor reported that figures of the Archbishopric's Legal Assistance Office indicate that 18 civilians and 36 others, including guerrillas and military members, were killed.

Meanwhile, the Armed Forces reported 62 casualties.

Msgr. Rosa Chavez regretted that these actions have bereaved families, widowed women, and orphaned children.

He also reiterated the church's call for a peaceful agreement as soon as possible.

Church: Other 'Authors' Involved in Jesuit Case

PA3011174290 Paris AFP in Spanish 2038 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Text] San Salvador, 25 Nov (AFP)—The Catholic Church reported today that Judge Ricardo Zamora has determined that the killing of the Jesuit priests was decided at the Army Military School headquarters. Zamora is the judge who is currently investigating the massacre of the six Jesuit priests and their two employees in San Salvador a year ago.

San Salvador Auxiliary Bishop Gregorio Rosa Chavez revealed that Judge Zamora had stated in the report on the preliminary proceedings in the Jesuit case, presented to the Prosecutor's Office, that he had evidence that former Military School Director Colonel Guillermo Benavides had participated in the crime.

According to the judge, eight other soldiers, in addition to Benavides, participated in the crime. These soldiers, except for one who escaped, are currently under arrest, the report added.

The soldiers' defense lawyers had previously requested that the judge dismiss the case for lack of evidence. The Prosecutor's Office will now have to determine, however, if it will take the case to a full court.

Monsignor Rosa Chavez reaffirmed the church's belief that other "intellectual authors" participated in this massacre. He said, however, that it was important that the judge had confirmed the main authors of the crime. Rosa Chavez added this was the first time this fact had been confirmed in the legal proceedings.

The auxiliary bishop insisted that "exemplary trials" must be held so that similar crimes are not repeated.

Rosa Chavez also reported that a group of low-level soldiers, who are currently in different Salvadoran penitentiaries, had sent a "touching" letter to Archbishop Arturo Rivera y Damas. The soldiers admitted their

mistakes and asked for mercy for their crimes in the ongoing civil war, which has lasted 10 years.

The soldiers who signed the letter studied their situation and pointed out structural and educational problems in the Armed Forces. Rosa Chavez said to reporters that these factors must be included in the conflict's negotiated solution.

Witness in Jesuit Murder Case Dies in Combat

PA0212214490 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 28 Nov 90 p 68

[Text] Captain Carlos Fernando Herrera Carranza, who was killed recently in Morazan Department in a terrorist attack, had testified once as a witness in the Jesuit case. During the 1989 November offensive by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN], he was the chief of operations of the Armed Forces' National Intelligence Department. Because of that, he was called on 13 July of this year by the fourth criminal judge to testify as a witness in the case.

In his statement, he said that during the offensive he was in charge of coordinating military operations to avoid clashes among different patrols in the military complex located on Santa Tecla Street, and that he did not participate in any military operation the day the Jesuits were murdered. His friends recalled that when the terrorist offensive began on 11 November 1989, Capt. Herrera Carranza, who was stationed at the time of his death in Military Detachment No. 4 in San Francisco Gotera, was providing assistance to President Alfredo Cristiani's daughter, who was at Albert Einstein University. They add that when the officer was returning with the president's daughter, while passing in front of the Central American University campus on the southern freeway, FMLN terrorists fired at him. No one was hurt and Capt. Herrera Carranza and his companions repelled the attack.

His friends added that in the recent rebel attacks on different towns of the country, Capt. Herrera Carranza asked to lead of group of soldiers to repel the extremists and to ensure the safety of San Francisco Gotera's residents. He performed this mission with utmost effectiveness, but regrettably he was killed in the fighting along with four soldiers from his company.

UN Officials Asked To Appeal to Guerrillas

PA0112050090 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0305 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Report by Antonio Minero]

[Text] The Salvadoran Government has asked UN mediator Alvaro de Soto and Antonio Pastor Ridruejo, special rapporteur of the UN Human Rights Commission, to ask the guerrillas to suspend the offensive it started last week. By means of a Foreign Ministry communique, the government asked the UN representatives to ask the rebels to suspend their military operations because they are adversely affecting the civilian population.

The government blamed the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] leaders for violating human rights agreements signed by the government and guerrilla delegates in Costa Rica.

The Permanent Committee for National Debate presented today to the government and the guerrillas a proposal for a cease-fire based on an agreement concerning the Armed Forces.

The document, which will be delivered to the United Nations in the next few days includes—as a first step—the abolition of the Army and the FMLN. The social organizations that compose the Permanent Comittee for National Debate pointed out that if there is no agreement on the Armed Forces at the negotiation table, it will be difficult to progress in the peace talks. In this regard, they have prepared a demilitarization document, which they will submit to the UN secretary general, the Salvadoran Government, and the FMLN.

[Begin unidentified speaker recording] The committee makes the following proposal: to reach agreements on the Armed Forces as soon as possible. If this is done, there will be no further bloodshed among Salvadoran brothers, and we will have the needed atmosphere for a climate of freedom in the next elections, which should become an instrument of peace. [end recording]

In the same document, they also propose the dismantling of paramilitary organizations and death squads, the total and immediate suspension of forceful recruitment, and the elimination of the compulsory military service. In addition, they also call for the abolition of rapid response battalions, the dismantling of all security corps, and the creation of a civilian police.

According to the Permanent Committee for National Debate, this document should be discussed in the next round of negotiations, scheduled to take place between the government and the FMLN in December.

[Begin unidentified speaker recording] We propose, as an immediate step toward achieving a cease-fire, constitutional reforms concerning the Armed Forces issue. The Legislative Assembly should call for the abolition of the Army within the framework of the demilitarization of society. [end recording]

The document ends by emphasizing the need to contribute to the achievement of peace with social justice. It also states that the only reason behind its proposals for political agreements for a cease-fire is its peaceful and patriotic commitment.

Honduras

Armed Forces Chief Resigns; Successor Named

PA0212004790 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 0003 GMT 2 Dec 90

[Text] It has been officially confirmed that General Arnulfo Cantarero Lopez, who, until now has been commander in chief of the Honduran Armed Forces, has presented his irrevocable resignation. He presented his resignation because of personal and insurmountable [insuperables] reasons. Cantarero Lopez was selected as commander in chief by the National Congress, the state's primary power.

The resignation has already been officially presented to the secretary of the congress' Permanent Commission for due processing, and it has been confirmed that the Superior Council is meeting at this time to select the candidates who will be sent to congress.

Now we can release the information that we were holding back. The virtual successor to Gen. Cantarero is the current commander of the navy, Colonel Luis Alonso Discua Elvir.

Col. Discua Elvir was the chief of military intelligence when Gen. Humberto Regalado Hernandez was commander of the Armed Forces.

A government communique also states that Colonel Jose Vanegas Medina, chief of the joint staff, will be the acting commander of the Armed Forces, in accordance with Honduran law.

Communique on General's Resignation

PA0212005590 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 0026 GMT 2 Dec 90

["Official Communique" issued by the Armed Forces' Public Relations Directorate in Tegucigalpa—read by station announcer]

[Text] The Armed Forces' Public Relations Directorate informs the Honduran people that:

1. Brigade General Arnulfo Cantarero Lopez, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, has submitted his irrevocable resignation from the post he holds due to personal and insurmountable reasons.

2. The Armed Forces command has been entrusted to Infantry Colonel Jose De Jesus Vanegas Medina, in accordance with the law.

3. In a special session, the honorable Armed Forces Superior Council received a copy of the resignation presented to the sovereign National Congress, and it is meeting to comply with the constitutional procedure to choose a replacement, in line accordance with the law.

Tegucigalpa, 1 December 1990
Public Relations Directorate

Honduran Armed Forces

Callejas Confident UN Resolution To Prevent War

PA0112185790 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1751 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 1 Dec (ACAN-EFE)—Honduran President Rafael Callejas today expressed his confidence that the latest UN resolution against Iraq "will prevent a war in the Persian Gulf."

Callejas said he expects positive results from the peace negotiations that will be held before January 15, which is the deadline established by the UN Security Council authorizing the use of force against Iraq if it does not withdraw from Kuwait.

Callejas stressed that "a war will have negative results for the entire world." He has not publicly given up on his intentions to send Honduran troops to join the multinational force in Saudi Arabia that is headed by the United States.

Callejas had announced in October that he would send approximately 150 Honduran soldiers to support the UN-ordered embargo against Iraq. The contingent is still training in the hot areas of the country.

Economy Minister Medina on UN Resolution

PA3011165590 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Interview with Economy and Commerce Minister Ramon Medina Luna by Julio Armando Valdes in San Salvador; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Valdes] What are the consequences of the UN Security Council resolution for Honduras?

[Medina] The effects could be very harmful. We do not want to be birds of ill omen; we do not want to think about the possibility of a war, because in fact the effects could be very negative for us. We must be prepared for it, but I feel that we should expect the best, not the worst.

[Valdes] Would this also harm all negotiations to integrate—all economic plans, the Central American integration, the meeting that is scheduled to take place in Mexico to find ways to revive the economies?

[Medina] No, quite to the contrary. I think we should strengthen our efforts. One of the measures will obviously be to reduce our dependence on imported fuels. We would have to find immediate alternatives, but it is very difficult to do this in the short run. I believe, however, that this is one of the options we should consider.

Obviously, in the face of another world crisis similar to one that the world went through during a five-year period in the 1940's, we are forced to make more autonomous efforts to advance our development. I

believe that our needs do not disappear. Quite the contrary; they are heightened. This requires more leadership and determination.

[Valdes] Could petroleum reach $100 per barrel?

[Medina] I believe that it is very difficult to predict. Some have mentioned $60 per barrel should there be an armed confrontation. Others have mentioned even $80, and more than one may have mentioned $100. I repeat, however, that this is mere speculation.

The world has petroleum stocks. There are international reserves, and should there be a conflict—that, in any case, we hope would last a very short period of time—the reserves would have to be placed on the market to compensate for any production shortage. I believe, however, that we should not be thinking in those terms; we should hope for a peaceful solution.

[Valdes] Saddam Husayn has said that he will not withdraw from Kuwait. This causes a confrontation. Let us focus on the effects in our country. Would there not be a speculative wave before a confrontation, should Saddam Husayn reject this deadline?

[Medina] Should that happen, I believe that we will have to face it. We will cross that bridge when we come to it. We are not yet there, and I continue to maintain that we should have a positive and optimistic attitude.

[Valdes] Would the Callejas government be forced to adopt new economic measures?

[Medina] As I just said, we have to wait until we get there. We cannot predict what the measures would be. There is obviously no doubt that the situation would be very calamitous for us. I believe, however, that we should maintain high spirits; we must be strong enough to face this. There is no doubt that at that time we would have to seek even stronger support from international organizations and friendly countries, mainly because of the effects that a further increase in fuel prices could have and the rise in inflation that we would be facing. I believe and hope that the situation in the Persian Gulf will not lead to war.

[Valdes] Would we need more aid from the United States or other powers?

[Medina] The USSR supports this decision. In this case, we would also have to resort to emergency measures.

Foreign Minister Carias on Summit Preparations

PA0312041190 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Text] Foreign Minister Mario Carias Zapata has commented on the important meeting that the area's foreign ministers and Mexican Foreign Minister Fernando Solana held in preparation for the summit meeting of Central American presidents and Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari.

[Begin Carias recording] I would like to recap the topics we discussed, if my esteemed colleagues will allow it. First, I can tell you that the presidential summit will be held in Tuxtla-Gutierrez, the capital of Chiapas State, in Mexico on 10 and 11 January 1991. Our governments will study the topics that we reviewed here and later on will make specific proposals on the agenda that will be analyzed in January.

The presidents will basically discuss five major areas in the relations between Mexico and Central America, including the possibility of increasing the commercial exchange system and finding a way to cooperate in the field of energy. The Central American presidents will also search for ways to consolidate financial assistance. Mexico, as you know, is the major foreign partner of the Central American Bank of Economic Integration. Also, we will try to find ways to expand technical and scientific cooperation. We also talked about the need for holding regular meetings of this type between ourselves and Mexico so that together we can conduct negotiations and talks with third countries and international organizations. The ministers also reviewed the preparations for the dialogue among the EEC, Central America, and the Group of Three to be held in Managua, Nicaragua, on 18 and 19 March 1991.

We think it is important for Central America to be present at and associated with other forums for dialogue.

A group of 24 industrialized nations, with the aid of the Group of Three, might form a support group for the region, something that could be called an association for development and democracy. The purpose of this would be to serve as a support group for Central America. [end recording]

Carias then commented on the current situation in Central America.

[Begin Carias recording] I think I have summarized our meeting. We also took a look at the current political situation in the area and the possibilities for peace in the near future, primarily in terms of expanding the current peace process because it can serve to consolidate democracy and economic development. [end recording]

Spanish Minister Meets With Callejas, ONUCA

PA0212190190 San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 27 Nov 90 p 9

[Text] Tegucigalpa—The Armed Forces of Spain are willing to help strengthen the professionalism of the Honduran Armed Forces and to increase their participation in the UN Observer Group in Central America, ONUCA, said Spanish Defense Minister Narciso Serra.

Serra is here as part of an official tour to inspect the Spanish troops who are in ONUCA and have been in Nicaragua and Honduras since the beginning of the year to help in the regional pacification process.

The defense minister, who is not a military man, met this morning with President Callejas, and a few hours later with Armed Forces Chief General Arnulfo Cantarero Lopez.

Serra said that the Spanish Government looks at everything that happens in Hispanic countries with interest and "with a feeling of friendship and appreciation," especially in Central America, which is involved in a pacification process which has not been concluded due to the internal problems in El Salvador.

Spain is ready to increase the number of its representatives in ONUCA (presently at 59), because "we would like to see peace come to all the Central American countries," said the defense minister, who holds a doctorate in business and economics.

Callejas and Serra spoke about the disarmament project which the Central American governments are trying to implement in the region, about the consequences that a flare-up of the Salvadoran conflict can have on the plan, and about European military experience.

"I was pleased to listen to him and to learn about the Spanish Armed Forces, and I informed him that in Honduras the Armed Forces have become a stabilizing element of democracy," said Callejas.

Serra, who has headed the Spanish Defense Ministry for eight years, is accompanied on the tour by Lieutenant General Francisco Veguillas, general director of policy in the Defense Ministry, and Luis Reverter, director of public affairs and information for the Defense Ministry.

Also at the meeting were Spanish Ambassador Julio Albi de la Cuesta and ONUCA Commander General Agustin Quesada.

Nicaragua

UN Resolution Called 'Lesser of Two Evils'

PA3011215790 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1931 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Text] Managua, 30 Nov (ACAN - EFE)—The Nicaraguan Government today termed the UN Security Council decision to authorize the use of force against Iraq "the lesser of two evils."

Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Enrique Dreyfus told journalists that the government of this Central American country "does not like the use of force," but it also does not approve of "violating the established international order."

"If one must choose between two evils, one must choose the lesser of the evils, which is not to support countries that use force to show disrespect for the peoples' right to self-determination," the Nicaraguan foreign minister said, alluding to the invasion of Kuwait by Iraqi troops on 2 August.

Central Bank Denies Suspension of U.S. Aid

PA3011185090 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1815 GMT 28 Nov 90

[Text] The Nicaraguan Government denied today that AID has suspended disbursements of the $300-million aid package approved by the U.S. Congress. Central Bank President Raul Lacayo dismissed rumors that AID would order the suspension of those funds due to the United States' disapproval of the current government's economic policy. Lacayo said that $60 million granted by the United States was used to adjust imports in the balance of payments. The United States has yet to deliver the remaining $240 million. Lacayo said that the government is currently coordinating with AID the next disbursement of $40 million, which will make a total of $100 million applied toward the balance of payments.

BARRICADA on 'Suspended' U.S. Aid

PA0212232690

[Editorial Report] Managua BARRICADA in Spanish on 1 December on page one carries a 350-word article entitled "Why the AID [Agency for International Development] Mystery?" In the editorial BARRICADA says that despite the denials by Central Bank President Raul Lacayo and AID, it has "unequivocal proof" that AID has in fact suspended its disbursements to Nicaragua." To corroborate its statement, the newspaper notes that the U.S. Embassy communique on the matter "contradicts remarks to BARRICADA by Raul Lacayo."

"If, as the AID communique says, 'there is no intention' to suspend support for the government's economic plan, why then is not the disbursement plan approved by the U.S. Congress made public? How many millions have been disbursed so far? How much money is left and on what dates will the disbursements be made," the newspaper asks. It goes on to say that "An answer from the government or Mrs. Ballentyne [not further identified] would suffice to dispel the AID mystery."

BARRICADA also carries on page four a 600-word article entitled: "Businessmen Foresee Grave Impact Due to AID Suspension." The article begins by saying that AID decided "to suspend a $300 million disbursement approved by the U.S. Congress," and the decision "could have grave consequences for the national economy." It goes on to cite Rosendo Diaz Bendana, a farmer who belongs to the Union of Nicaraguan Agricultural-Livestock Producers-Higher Council of Private Enterprise as saying: "We are not self-sufficient. Any aid that is suspended can have grave consequences for the country." The report adds that Diaz is skeptical about the reports on the suspension, although he feels that the strike by sugarcane cutters, takeover of properties, "and rebellions everywhere" require strong action from the government.

Alejandro Ruiz, a storekeeper who operates in the Managua Mall, says many merchants will not be able to import products because the Central Bank can only

provide 70 percent of the financing, despite the existence of an agreement with President Violeta Chamarro to provide 100 percent financing. "I cannot understand why this is happening; when merchants made their request they were told the money would not come from AID funds," Ruiz remarks.

The report says that "the exchange houses did not react to the news of the withholding of U.S. aid." It cites Jose Dolores Gomez, general manager of the International Exchange Bureau, as saying that the Central Bank had not "hampered the sale of currency." "On the streets, people selling dollars on the black market were apparently doing normal business, although analysts concede that if AID continues freezing the disbursements, the black market could face an abnormal situation," the report concludes.

Canada Grants $8.2 Million for Development

PA0212180290 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 1 Dec 90 p 4

[Text] Through a letter of understanding signed on 30 November, the Canadian Government will grant $8.2 million (9.5 Canadian dollars) for Nicaragua to carry out two development cooperation projects.

After the protocol ceremony at the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry, Canadian Ambassador Henry Garfield Pardy announced that the first project will be carried out by CARE-Canada in collaboration with the Nicaraguan Aqueducts and Sewage Institute (INAA).

The first project, at a cost of 5 million Canadian dollars over five years, will finance the construction of potable water and latrine systems in the Region 6. The project will also finance sanitation education programs.

The second project, over four years and at a cost of 4 million Canadian dollars, will promote the development of human resources in the agricultural and environmental fields. It will be carried out by the Canadian Association of Community Colleges in collaboration with the Education Ministry and other Nicaraguan institutions specializing in vocational education.

Deputy Foreign Cooperation Minister Noel Vidaurre represented the Nicaraguan Government and signed the agreement in the presence of Labor Minister Francisco Rosales and Deputy Education Minister Humberto Belli.

Lacayo To Renegotiate Debt With Spain

PA3011183290 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 29 Nov 90 p 4

[Excerpt] Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo flew to Europe on 28 November to negotiate the country's $240-million debt with Spain and attend the meeting of the international banks' consultative group to be held in Paris on 3 and 4 December. During a brief news conference before leaving for Madrid, the minister explained that the debt with Spain was negotiated during the Sandinist regime but the respective protocol was not signed. That is why the current government expects to renegotiate under more favorable terms. [passage omitted]

Spanish Defense Minister Ends Official Visit

PA3011140990 Managua Sistema Nacional de Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 27 Nov 90

[Italicized passages are recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] The official three-day visit of Spanish Defense Minister Narciso Serra has ended, and, beginning today, the Spanish Embassy has a military attache. In addition, the Spanish Government, through its defense minister, has granted $5 million to the Nicaraguan Government to start small businesses for discharged Army soldiers. The loan is the result of negotiations between the Nicaraguan Government, conducted by Major General Joaquin Cuadra, chief of the EPS [Sandinist People's Army] General Staff, and the Spanish Government.

[Cuadra] *The Spaniards are respectful and do not try to influence or place conditions on us. We do believe, however, that the Spanish Armed Forces have certain experiences, and even though we need not mechanically copy them, they could be useful to us under the new professional profile we are trying to establish.*

[Serra] *We also have things to learn.*

[Announcer] Spanish Defense Minister Narciso Serra and his retinue were seen off by General Humberto Ortega, who presented Minister Serra a set of wicker rocking chairs and primitive paintings as gifts from the EPS. Minister Serra gave Gen. Ortega an antique pistol. The farewell was attended by General Agustin Quesada, ONUCA [UN Observer Group in Central America] representative in Central America, and Colonel Manuel Maldonado, ONUCA representative to Nicaragua.

Minister Serra thanked the Chamorro government for its hospitality and then left for Esteli, from where he will fly to Honduras. He visited the Spanish ONUCA contigents in Esteli and Ocotal, where he met with the ONUCA leaders and visited the Spanish ONUCA contigent as a gesture of goodwill and solidarity. There he was received by Spanish Lieutenant Colonel (Badi Valdin), who, along with Gen. Quesada, briefed him on ONUCA's work in Nicaragua, from the different strategies that were used in its initial contacts with the Nicaraguan Resistance to the work on the Resistance's disarmament.

[Serra] *We are going to work together. On 23 November the Spanish Government signed an agreement to appoint a military attache in Managua. In addition, with Gen. Humberto Ortega, we outlined some fields of possible cooperation, which includes military training.*

[Announcer] Minister Serra was pleased by the Spanish troops' high degree of professionalism and thanked President Chamorro for her kind hospitality.

[Serra] *I received a warm and sincere welcome. Ideas have been presented to me very clearly, and I depart with the satisfaction and belief that we have made friends and have set the groundwork for future joint efforts.*

[Announcer] Many times it has been thought that the CIAV [International Commission of Support and Verification], OAS, UNHCR [UN high commissioner for refugees], and ONUCA are all the same.

[Quesada] *Although they work together, these organizations are completely different. Their administration and their funding are completely different.*

[Announcer] ONUCA, a UN organization, has been one of the most important pillars in the Nicaraguan peace process.

Treaty Banning Use of Toxic Gases Ratified

PA0112203790 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1330 GMT 27 Nov 90

[Text] Nicaragua has joined the countries that ban the use of asphyxiating and toxic gases as well as bacteriological means in times of war, says a press communique issued today by the Foreign Ministry of the Republic. The communique says that Nicaragua has ratified the 17 June 1925 treaty on the use of asphyxiating and toxic gases as well as bacteriological means in times of war. The French Government, which received the notice of ratification, has notified the other treaty signatories of the Nicaraguan decision.

3d Cuban Doctor Receives Costa Rica Asylum

PA0112221290 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1806 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Text] Managua, 1 Dec (DPA)—According to several journalists who were at the Managua airport terminal, the Cuban doctor who once headed a department in a Managua hospital and who had sought refuge at the Costa Rican Embassy here, left for San Jose today without comment.

Giovani Domenico, 23, who was in charge of the infirmary at Lenin Fonseca Hospital in Managua, had made statements on the government run television station, saying that he was being persecuted by the Cuban Government.

Domenico was accompanied to the airport terminal by Costa Rican Ambassador to Managua Carlos Aguilar. The ambassador did not comment on the doctor, who is the third Cuban doctor to request asylum at an accredited foreign mission.

On 29 November two other Cuban doctors who had sought asylum at the Costa Rica Embassy, Mario Antonio Reyes Morales and Gilberto Marcelino Perez Blanco, were given tourist visas to Costa Rica. The Costa Rican authorities have begun an investigation into the doctors' request for asylum. The doctors claim that they are being persecuted by their government.

'Destabilization' Plan Reported in Region 1

PA3011172790 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 29 Nov 90 p 8

[Text] Ocotal—A macabre terrorist plan drafted by UNO [National Opposition Union] extremists and former contras to carry out destabilization activities in Region 1 in the next few days was revealed to EL NUEVO DIARIO yesterday by reliable sources, who asked to remain anonymous.

The informers said that to implement the plan, the extremists met in Edgard Torres' house at 1500 on Monday, 26 November. There they received instructions from contra leaders Jacinto Tercero (El Campeon), El Diablo, Emiliano, and Tarzan.

Their plans include the participation of some 1,000 extremists, who would be in charge of setting up roadblocks on the roads leading to Jalapa, Ocotal, Santa Clara, Quilali, San Juan del Rio Coco, and the rural villages of El Pencon and El Portal, both located in the municipality of Telpaneca.

Subsequently, they plan to continue with the occupation of government institutions in Quilali, as well as the area located northwest of Ciudad Sandino, Murra, Susucayan, Santa Clara, Ciudad Antigua, areas located south and east of San Juan del Rio Coco, Jumuyca, and Las Cucharas (Susucayan Municipality).

The UNO extremists who support the former contras in Quilali include Noel Siles, Leonor Benavides, Gloria Ortiz, Jose and Rafael Flores, among others.

Among their objectives, they plan to completely block the current production cycle of basic grains and coffee, to demand the dismissal of police authorities, of the EPS [Sandinist People's Army], of judges and mayors in the municipalities located in Nueva Segovia, of Sandinist employees from government institutions, and to create new settlements for development.

It was also learned that former contra Eduardo Zelaya is planning to attack and to occupy La Ventanilla Hacienda in Quilali and return it to Somozist Mauricio Portillo. Four peasant cooperatives are located in this property, where 177 families live.

They plan to prevent peasants from bringing their agriculture products to the market once the installations are occupied. They plan to harvest the coffee themselves and sell it elsewhere so that the members of the cooperatives cannot pay off their loans to the bank that will take away their lands.

The purpose of all of this is to create dissatisfaction with the government of President Violeta Chamorro. To

accomplish this they will close off roads to prevent the entrance of merchants, doctors, and public transportation. It is a plan similar to the one implemented in Region 5, the sources said. They added that a similar plan is being considered for Region 6.

Labor Conflict at State Radio Station Resolved

PA3011124090 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Text] The labor conflict at the state-owned Radio Nicaragua was resolved on the night of 28 November when the administrative director, Roger Guardado, was dismissed. The union, which is affiliated with the CST [Sandinist Workers Federation], the board of directors of Radio Nicaragua, representatives of the UPN [Union of Nicaraguan Journalists], the Labor Ministry, and the Information and Press Directorate of the Presidency held a meeting on 28 November during which they agreed to dismiss Guardado and two regional department chiefs.

Accounting Chief Armando Lara, General Services Department Chief Antonio Portillo, and Guardado will remain in their offices until 30 November. They were accused by the workers of irregularities in their duties. Adolfo Pastrana Arancibia, current deputy director and news editor of the station, will be the acting administrator and will receive the accounting books from Roger Guardado after he leaves office.

8,000 Sugarcane Workers on Strike

PA3011203290 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1330 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Text] Approximately 8,000 workers from several sugarcane plantations continued yesterday to assemble on the outskirts of CONAZUCAR [expansion unknown] installations demanding a salary increase. One of the workers on strike told Managua Domestic Service that they will not waive their demands until the problem of low salaries—which they were promised would be increased several months ago—is solved. The following are statements made by one of the sugarcane workers at the German Pomares Sugar Mill:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified worker, in progress] ...they offer 60 gold cordobas when we have asked for 108. The amount they are offering is too low. They signed an agreement which they have not fulfilled.

[Reporter] When was this agreement signed?

[Worker] This agreement was signed on 6 April.

[Reporter] Who signed this agreement?

[Worker] Those people from the sugarcane sector.

[Reporter] Have you been advised as to what advances have been made in the negotiations so far?

[Worker] No, we do not know what advances have been made, but they are currently negotiating.

[Reporter] How long have you been here?

[Worker] We came yesterday, but there are some people from other sugarcane plantations who have been here for three to four days.

[Reporter] Besides [words indistinct]?

[Worker] We want our salaries adjusted.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] the sugarcane harvest?

[Worker] The sugar harvest has been at a standstill for four days.

[Reporter] Could this affect the sugar harvest?

[Worker] It will certainly affect the harvest, as the harvest is just beginning.

[Reporter] Are you willing to make any concessions...[changes thought]. Will you continue to strike if all the measures you demand are not implemented?

[Worker] We will certainly continue until the issues are resolved.

[Reporter] Besides the increase in salary, what are your other demands?

[Worker] CAUS [Central Organization of Trade Union Action and Unity] wants to do away with what we previously had. We do not want this. We want everything that we had before back.

[Reporter] About how many workers are on strike?

[Worker] Right now there are approximately 8,000 workers on strike. [end recording]

Sugar Mill Workers Return To Work

PA0312153290 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1237 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Workers of three sugar mills who had declared a strike will return to work today after reaching an agreement on their salaries with the Labor Ministry and the Nicaraguan Sugar Enterprise. The workers of the San Antonio, Javier Guerra, and German Pomares Sugar Mills have agreed to continue the harvest, which began just three weeks ago, provided they are paid incentives and given salary raises.

After long hours of negotiations, the union leaders of the three sugar mills and the Labor Ministry agreed to meet the workers' demands in accordance with the financial capabilities of each sugar mill. The sugar mill workers had demanded a wage increase of 56 percent, but both the Labor Ministry and the Sugar Enterprise had refused to accept it because, they said, it is financially impossible to pay this increase, which would amount to more than 200 gold cordobas.

Panama

Vice President Arias on Meeting With Bush

PA0112223690 Panama City EL DIARIO INDEPENDIENTE in Spanish 1 Dec 90 p 22

[Text] The main topic discussed by U.S. President George Bush and First Panamanian Vice President Ricardo Arias Calderon during his visit to Washington was a broad review of the Panamanian democratization, demilitarization, and development processes.

First Vice President Arias Calderon, who will return to Panama today, has said that President Bush reaffirmed his desire to continue cooperating with Panama, and he added that the obstacles in the path of the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty are being overcome.

According to Arias Calderon, many doubts that exist between the two countries regarding the treaty will be clarified with Washington's acceptance of the "double criminality" [doble criminalidad] principle—that is, the need for the existence of a common legal basis for a crime to be included in the framework of such bilateral legal cooperation.

The vice president expressed his satisfaction with the authorities of the Smithsonian Institute for fully supporting the Panamanian Government's efforts to preserve the ecological system of the Panama Canal's hydrographic basin.

Arias Calderon spoke before the OAS Permanent Council where he mentioned the important role played by that organization in the Nicaraguan presidential elections.

More on Arias-Bush Talks

PA0212015790 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0320 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Text] Washington, 30 Nov (EFE)—Ricardo Arias Calderon, Panamanian first vice president and minister of government and justice, has said here that his government will establish diplomatic relations with Eastern European countries soon. Arias Calderon told EFE that a high-level Soviet delegation recently visited Panama to make the preliminary contacts.

Nonetheless, Arias Calderon, who will end his official visit to Washington today, pointed out that his government is particularly interested in strengthening relations with the Latin American countries with which his government already has normal diplomatic ties, except Cuba.

The minister said that the presence of all of the Latin American ambassadors at the OAS plenum meeting, where he delivered a speech today, confirms and presupposes the normalization of relations between Panama and the other nations of the continent and recognition of the Panamanian Government.

Arias said that the talks with Mexico have been somewhat more difficult than with the other Latin American nations because of the asylum that the Mexican Embassy offered to a Panamanian businessman who is accused of embezzlement and sought by the Panamanian authorities.

The Panamanian vice president described his visit to the United States, during which he met U.S. President George Bush on 28 November, as an excellent opportunity to improve friendship and cooperation.

The topics discussed, which were regarded by the vice president as of the greatest importance, included Panama's demilitarization and its inclusion in the Central American integration process.

Arias also underlined the importance of U.S. cooperation with the Panamanian coast guard service which, among other things, is in charge of preventing drug trafficking along the Panamanian coasts.

The vice president said that in 11 months his government has confiscated 1.3 metric tons of cocaine, worth $166 million—twice the quantity in previous years—and arrested 639 people involved in drug trafficking. Commenting on the money laundering issue, he added that within the past 11 months his government has frozen 400 bank accounts and turned over hundreds of documents to the U.S. Government.

Arias Calderon commented with special interest on the agreement reached with the Smithsonian Institute to hold an international meeting in Washington to discuss the need for assistance in the efforts to protect the environment in Panama, particularly in the Canal's hydrographic basin.

In addition, Teresa de Arias, the vice president's wife, has said that she is negotiating a low-interest loan with the Inter-American Development Bank. She did not disclose the amount of the loan, but said that it will be used to finance an aid program for poor women who are the sole breadwinners in their families.

Linares Backs UN, Reiterates Canal Neutrality

PA0112171090 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 1 Dec 90 p 1-A

[Report by Juan Pristsiolas]

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr. Julio Linares has said that Panama "agrees" with the UN Security Council resolution authorizing the use of force against Iraq if it does not withdraw from Kuwait by 15 January. Linares pointed out, however, that the interoceanic canal should remain neutral in the event of an international confrontation.

"I agree with the resolution approved by the UN Security Council because I think that international organizations should enforce the principles and objectives that they promote," Linares said. He also stated that during the dictatorship of General Manuel Antonio Noriega,

Panama was a "victim" of the "ineffectiveness" of the OAS, because it did not do "anything" when it discussed the Panama case, and the United States was thus forced to carry out a military action in Panama.

Foreign Minister Linares stated, however, that he hopes the conflict can be resolved without resorting to the use of force, because a war will not only have adverse consequences in the Middle East but also in the rest of the world.

Linares noted that the role Panama could play in the event of a war is "minimal because, with a canal in our territory, our policy should be directed toward the neutralization" of the waterway.

The Panamanian foreign minister explained that one of the "pillars of neutrality is not to be a belligerent party in international conflicts."

Article 2 of the Treaty Concerning the Permanent Neutrality and Operation of the Panama Canal establishes that "Panama declares the neutrality of the canal in order that both in time of peace and in time of war it shall remain secure and open to peaceful transit by the vessels of all nations on terms of entire equality so that there will be no discrimination... and therefore the Isthmus of Panama shall not be the target of reprisals in any armed conflict between other nations of the world."

Article 3 of the same treaty states that warships from all nations will have the right to transit the canal at all times, irrespective of their internal operation, means of propulsion, origin, destination, or armament, without being subjected, as a condition of transit, to inspection, search, or surveillance.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Linares said that he had listened to the tapes and conversations between General Noriega in Miami and former legislator Luis Gomez, who took refuge at the Cuban Embassy and is still there. Linares said: I am going to talk to President Endara, but I cannot advance any details on the measures that we will adopt because these actions are not announced first. They are adopted first and reported later.

Government To Seek Extradition of Delvalle

PA0112020290 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0025 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Text] Panama City, 30 Nov (DPA)—The Panamanian Justice Department announced today that it will request from the U.S. Government the extradition of former Panamanian President Eric Arturo Delvalle and his former ambassador to Washington, Juan B. Sossa. They both have cases pending for the misuse of frozen funds in the United States under the Noriega regime.

Panama's Second Prosecutor Gomara de Jones said that next week she will request Delvalle's and Sossa's extradition to ask them questions and to ask them to hand over a report on the disbursement of $10 million, which was handled by them in 1988 and 1989 and which belonged to the Panamanian National Treasury.

Delvalle and Sossa have been in the United States since March 1988, when they formed a government in exile—which was recognized by Washington—after failing to force General Manuel Antonio Noriega, Panama's strongman at the time, to leave.

According to former Delvalle assistants, the $10 million was used to run Panamanian diplomatic missions abroad and to develop operations aimed at overthrowing Noriega.

Poll Reveals Attitudes on U.S. Bases, Soldiers

PA0212212090 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 1 Dec 90 p 1-A

[Text] A high percentage of Panamanians believe that the U.S. invasion was a liberation, but at the same time they believe that the invasion "wounded our national pride," according to the Dichter and Neira poll conducted among 902 individuals of both sexes.

Seventy-one percent of the people polled believe that the invasion took a toll because they feel that the nation's pride was hurt, and this position would appear to prevail more among women (74.8 percent) than men (68.7 percent).

A larger percentage of pollees in the metropolitan area and nearby areas to are inclined to think more of the costs of the invasion, which could be because the capital city was most affected by the invasion's negative consequences.

We asked the pollees their opinions concerning the presence of U.S. soldiers in the country, and their answers were contradictory, because 44.5 percent said that the soldiers were necessary, as opposed to 41.8 percent who said the contrary, which shows that there are no significant differences between both positions.

Meanwhile, an examination of the results shows that 48.3 percent of the people living in the metropolitan area (including Panama, San Miguelito, and La Chorrera), believe that the U.S. military presence in the country is necessary, while 39 percent feel that it is not.

The above could be the result of the crime wave affecting the capital city, in addition to the lack of credibility expressed by the pollees concerning the Judicial Technical police and the national police.

In the rest of the country, 40.4 percent of the pollees support the presence of foreign soldiers, while 43 percent reject it.

If the results are studied considering educational patterns, it can be noted that the less educated a Panamanian is, the more he demands the U.S. presence in the country, which could be related to a desire for the military bases to remain beyond the year 2,000.

A percentage of 41.6 want the U.S. bases to remain in the country beyond the year 2,000, while 43.5 percent do not. An examination based on the pollees' education levels shows that the least educated groups, who traditionally have lower incomes or, in other words, 50.9 percent, favor the bases remaining, as opposed to only 38 percent of the more educated.

A percentage of 43.5 percent believe that the invasion brought more difficulties than benefits to the country, and 36.7 percent feel that this is not the case. Nevertheless, those with less education tend to believe that the invasion brought more benefits, while the more educated do not.

Meanwhile, the majority of the pollees or, in other words, 69 percent, believe that Panama cannot recover without foreign aid, while 22 percent believe that it can. This could be related to the fact that 63.2 percent feel that Panama's economic progress depends to a large extent on U.S. economic aid; in other words, they believe that there is a direct connection between Panama's economic progress and the assistance the country may receive from the United States.

A percentage of 65.6 percent of the pollees in the capital city said that Panama's economic progress depends on U.S. aid, and 60 percent throughout the rest of the country said the same.

Education influenced the pollees' perception of U.S. aid; 73.7 percent of the less educated and 60.3 percent of the more educated believe that U.S. aid is necessary.

Another question asked by Dichter and Neira was if, deep down, Panamanians are anti-Yankee, to which only 31 percent said yes and 40.9 percent said the contrary.

This means that even though Panamanians do not tend to describe themselves as anti-Yankee, in Panama City, there seems to be a slightly more marked anti-Yankee sentiment than in other areas of the country, perhaps because of the obvious U.S. presence in the capital city.

Bank Head on Money Laundering 'Disinformation'

PA0212164090 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Text] Panama Banking Association President Edgardo Lasso Valdez said today that drug money is all over the world because it is frequently used in prestigious commercial companies, and therefore Panama is also not free of this problem.

[Begin recording] [Lasso] Many of these companies work with banks, so, drug money obviously passes through Panama and through other important centers in some measure. We have insisted that no conscious money laundering is going on. We are not going to be foolish and say that there is no one involved in money laundering. If there is and if someone is doing so, then that is what the Panamanian authorities are there for, to investigate and hand down the proper sanctions.

What we cannot accept is for it to be said that the 110 banks that operate in Panama are laundering money. That is the difference. If in fact one or two or 10 bankers—however many you wish to say—are involved in money laundering, let us have the authorities investigate and punish those guilty. We cannot continue to accept that the banking center as such, as an important center with professional bankers from various parts of the world, is involved in the illegal laundering of money.

[Reporter] Could it be that the Panamanian banking center is a target of the United States to force the signing of the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty?

[Lasso] I find pressuring for money laundering to be the most absurd means of pressure. As far as I know, no banker and no Panamanian is opposed to signing a treaty that purports to control drug trafficking and money laundering. This has been said over and over again. What we have recommended the government to do is not to include tax evasion in the treaty. I have never heard any lawyer or banker say they are opposed to fighting drug trafficking or money laundering.

Somebody thought of this a long time ago: If you repeat a lie often enough it becomes the truth. There are people in Panama saying that it has to be true that money laundering goes on here because it is said so repeatedly in the United States and other countries.

I think it is simply a matter of disinformation in relation to what money laundering actually is. Money laundering is not when I receive a transfer from one bank with instructions to pass it on to another bank, unless, of course, I am aware that it is drug money and I still accept the illegal transaction. Receiving transfers from banks has never been money laundering, unless, as I said, it can be proved that I knew it was money coming from drugs. [end recording]

Bus Drivers, Owners Not To Join 5 Dec Strike

PA0212135990 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 1 Dec 90 p 1-A

[Report by Nubia Aparicio S.]

[Text] Public transportation bus drivers and owners announced yesterday that they will not support the 4 December march or the strike announced for 5 December because "infiltrators with distorted interests" could take advantage of the situation to cause chaos.

The drivers and owners said: "We inform the users and the general public that we are being pressured in two different directions, but with the same purpose." They also denounced that "some persons outside the transportation sector have threatened violence and the destruction of our buses if they circulate on 5 December."

They also said that, in open support for the strike, other leaders of the transport union have traveled to the

country's different provinces, feverishly seeking support for the strike demanding the payment of the 13th month bonus.

The bus drivers and owners said, however, that "It is our duty to serve the public transportation users as we do every day." They added that they are concerned with the threats because "if they are carried out, they will endanger the safety of the passengers, our lives, and our buses."

Disorders Reportedly Planned for 5 Dec Strike

PA0312170590 Panama City EL DIARIO INDEPENDIENTE in Spanish 3 Dec 90 pp 1, 22

[Tex] The thesis that the strike called by former pro-Noriega leaders is more a "political than labor" movement has gained force with the disclosure of tapes aired on CNN [Cable News Network] now in the hands of Foreign Minister Julio Linares. Reliable sources have told EL DIARIO INDEPENDIENTE that the recordings have been carefully analyzed by intelligence sectors of both the U.S. and Panamanian Governments. It has been concluded that from the Cuban Embassy, where [former Legislator] Lucho Gomez sought asylum, large sums of money have been distributed and instructions issued to pro-Noriega labor leaders such as Hector Aleman, Cesar Best, Mauro Murillo, and others. Those leaders have been asked to turn the labor strike into real chaos which could provoke a wave of disorders and generalized looting of local business establishments.

Recently, CNN only partially disclosed the content of the tapes, including a segment with a conversation between the dictator Noriega and Lucho Gomez, in which Noriega said: "Hey, you must lift their spirits... tell them to get to work." Other conversations were kept secret.

One of the interesting aspects of the strike organized by the pro-Noriega labor leaders will be the use of chains and padlocks to block the entrances to government buildings and offices in the early hours of 5 December to prevent access to government employees who decide to go to work, actions for which the labor leaders are well prepared. They also plan to block adjacent streets with trucks and vehicles, after flattening their tires and removing their batteries. At approximtely 0800 workers who show up to work will be received by "a special committee," and at 0900 an announcement will be made to the nation over certain radio stations saying that "the strike has been a total success."

As for the march, it has been learned that several criminals and armed groups have been hired, who at a given time will smash glass windows and fire shots into the air to start the disorders.

Argentina

Report on Plot Against U.S. President Disputed

PY0112022490 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2200 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Text] La Plata, 30 Nov (NA)—An intelligence report included in a case in which an alleged Bolivian terrorist was arrested and which warns of a possible plot against U.S. President George Bush became a source of disagreement between federal judges of La Plata today because some of them denied it, while others admitted that it existed.

According to the La Plata daily EL DIA, which made the serious announcement, Federal Judge Alberto Ramon Duran admitted that a Buenos Aires police intelligence report mentioning the possibility of a plot is included in the case file. According to EL DIA, the report states that the extremists were going to stage the attack "if they could achieve the necessary safety framework to attack a single person," referring to Bush.

Federal Judge Manuel Blanco, the federal judge whom Duran was acting for until today, denied the existence of such a report in the case for which Carlos Monzon Novena, an arrested Bolivian citizen, is being investigated. Blanco, accompanied by Inspector General Osvaldo Samohano, Buenos Aires Province police chief, held a news conference in his office at noon today. During the conference he said that he had still not talked with Judge Alberto Duran, who was temporarily hearing the case.

Inspector Samohano confirmed that antitank projectiles for use with FAL light automatic rifles were confiscated, and, at the same time, he denied that information had been leaked by the Buenos Aires police.

When asked about the confiscation of plans for the area around the Palermo neighborhood racetrack, where the attack against Bush was allegedly to take place, Judge Blanco answered: "We discovered various things." He added: "These organizations always have plans for public buildings such as schools, hospitals, and government offices, but it is not known whether the U.S. President will go there."

Blanco said Monzon Novena belonged to the Revolutionary Workers Union [Union de Trabajadores Revolucionarios—UTR] and was arrested "because he was regarded as a dangerous individual, not because he is a Marxist." When asked where the Bolivian citizen is being held, Blanco said: "He is being held at a Buenos Aires police station," which he refused to identify.

The intelligence report on the plot to assassinate Bush—disclosed by EL DIA and DIARIO POPULAR—elaborates on an alleged alliance between the UTR and the Everyone for the Fatherland Movement, which was responsible for an attack on the 3rd Mechanized Infantry Regiment in La Tablada. According to the report, the extremist group allegedly headed by Monzon Novena also planned to distribute pamphlets, throw Molotov cocktails, and attack foreign embassies.

The Buenos Aires Police Special Operations Group [Grupo Especial de Operaciones—GEO], which seized the extremists' bombs and weapons, also confiscated a plan of the area around the Palermo neighborhood racetrack, an area that Bush and his entourage were to drive through at the time of the alleged attack, according to the report.

As for the situation at the national government level, the La Plata daily stated in an editorial published on the front page of today's issue that the only thing that could be regarded as false "is the intelligence report drawn up by the Buenos Aires police or its conclusions or, probably, its recommendations."

The editorial ends by wondering: "Is it not rather hasty to disregard a warning that affects a person as important as the U.S. President?

"Would it not be more sensible to investigate the information than to investigate who leaked the information?" stated EL DIARIO, which ended by noting that the government "must not mistake a warning with a deed."

Political Youth Plan Rallies During Bush Visit

PY0112114690 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2138 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 30 Nov (NA)—Political party youths today ratified their decision to protest U.S. President George Bush's presence in this capital on 5 December.

They have issued an invitation to stage a national day of protest to "repudiate the arrival in Argentina of the enemy of our people and all oppressed people, George Bush, who is coming to supervise the implementation of Menem's policy, which consists of hunger and misery, the abdication of national patrimony, and the pardoning of those responsible for genocide."

The rally will begin at 1830 on 5 December. Members of political youth groups will gather on Callao and Corrientes Streets to march to the Plaza de Mayo through the traffic on Corrientes Street.

The rally has been called by the leaders of various political youth sectors—including Jorge Pizarro (Peronist Youth), Diego Fernandez (Intransigent Youth), Alejandro Mosquera (Communist Party), Alejandro Grimson (MAS) [Movement Toward Socialism], Gabriel Lerner (Free Fatherland Movement), Daniel Banegas (Peronist Party grass-roots organizations)—and the Workers for Socialism Movement.

University students, Malvinas war veterans, members of the Plaza de Mayo mothers organization, the Jewish Human Rights Movement, the MAS, the Communist Party, and other leftist parties are supporting the rally.

Other sectors of the Peronist and radical youth organizations will hold various demonstrations at their respective universities at the same time to repudiate Bush's visit .

Menem Previews Bush Visit, Praises Relations

PY0112142490 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1354 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 1 Dec (TELAM)—President Carlos Menem has termed as "exceptional" the climate of expectation over the upcoming visit of U.S. President George Bush, which is scheduled for 5 December. The chief of state spoke briefly with reporters at the conclusion of the main Civil Aviation Day ceremony at the San Fernando airfield.

Menem said: "In view of the proposal for free trade throughout Latin America, and the good relations between the United States and Argentina, it would be better for Argentines to understand that ideologies and other factors that lead to confrontation are of no use to Argentina or any other part of the world."

He lamented that "some people are clinging to ideology and calling for demonstrations against President Bush when the whole population should take to the streets to greet the man who represents the most powerful country in the world."

The chief of state emphasized that "we are going to intensify our relations" and noted that "we are currently implementing a series of agreements. We are working very hard with the United States, and we are going to intensify and deepen our relations, which have improved substantially during this government."

Legislators Organize Rally To Protest Bush Visit

PY0212004090 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2008 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 1 Dec (NA)—A group of national legislators, leaders of various political parties, and members of social organizations will hold a rally in front of the Malvinas War Heroes monument in Retiro neighborhood on 5 December to repudiate U.S. President George Bush's visit.

During the rally, scheduled to start at 1100, the participants will read a document "protesting the political meaning of Bush's visit." This was disclosed by Justicialist leader Jacinto Gaibur, one of the event organizers.

According to Gaibur, the document "will state that Bush is visiting Latin American countries, among them Argentina, to consolidate U.S. Government policies that alone and through U.S. influence on international financial organizations affect most of these nations."

The following national deputies, among others, will attend the rally: Guillermo Estevez Boero and Simon Lazara (Socialists), Matilde Quarracino and Alberto Aramouni (Popular Democratic Party), Oscar Alende and Pedro Garcia (Intransigent Party), and Rafael Pascual, Marcelo Bassani, Carlos Raimundi, Marcos di Caprio, and Juan Jose Cavalari (Radical Civic Union).

Sergio Pardo, Dario Giustossi, and Daniel Bravo, presidents of the national, Buenos Aires, and metropolitan Radical Youths, respectively, as well as Gaibur, Graciela Fernandez Meijide, and Alfredo Bravo will also be at the event.

At 1100 on 3 December a commission made up of Deputies Lazara, Bassani, Pascual, Quarracino, and Garcia, together with Gaibur, will meet with Interior Minister Julio Mera Figueroa to inform him about the 5 December rally and request the necessary safety measures.

Menem Criticizes Demonstrations

PY0312013090 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 2 Dec 90 p 4

[Excerpts] (NA-DYN)—President Carlos Menem yesterday stated that he was disappointed with the various "stubborn ideologists" who are organizing demonstrations against US President George Bush and said "the population should be taking to the streets to welcome the representative of the most powerful nation on Earth."

Menem made the statements at San Fernando airport at a ceremony and air-display in honour of Civil Aviation Day. The President was optimistic when fielding questions from the press and said "we are going to strengthen our relations" with the US, adding that a series of bilateral agreements would be signed.

Meanwhile, Popular Democrat Deputy Alberto Aramouni said yesterday that some 10 deputies, including the Group of Eight, "oppose Bush's visit to the Legislative Assembly." Those opposed to the US presidential visit will absent themselves from the proceedings. [passage omitted]

Buenos Aires police sources who earlier alerted Judge Alberto Ramon Duran to an alleged plot to assassinate Bush during his visit next Wednesday [5 December] said the attack was planned because of "Menem's constitutional pardons favouring the commanders-in-chief," from the 1976/83 military government. [passage omitted]

'Armed Group' Takes Over Army Staff Headquarters

PY0312084090 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0828 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Dec (TELAM)—Presidential spokesman Humberto Toledo confirmed this morning that an armed group in military uniforms took over the guard post at the "Libertador" building before dawn today. The Libertador building is the headquarters of the Army Staff.

Toledo said that Defense Minister Humberto Romero and the Armed Forces staff chiefs have been informed of the incident and that the government is studying the situation.

Menem Decrees 'State of Siege'

PY0312091290 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0857 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Dec (TELAM)—Presidential spokesman Humberto Toledo has reported that President Carlos Saul Menem has decided to decree a state of siege after meeting with Interior Minister Julio Mera Figueroa at Government House this morning.

President Menem (?arrived at Government House) at 0700 GMT and immediately held a meeting with his closest advisers. Also present at the meeting were Health Minister Alberto Kohan, Senator Eduardo Menem, and presidential spokesman Humberto Toledo.

Menem is in permanent contact with the other Cabinet members, the chiefs of staff of the three branches of the Armed Forces, and the chief of the joint staff.

Through the presidential spokesman, President Menem has requested that the people continue their normal activities. All official information will be channeled through the presidential spokesman.

Spokesman Confirms Attacks

PY0312102590 Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color Network in Spanish 0942 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Relay from Government House by Jorge Pasos]

[Text] Good morning. A few minutes ago presidential spokesman Humberto Toledo came to the press room to report to the president the nation's initial reaction to the situation. This is a recording of the presidential spokesman's comments:

[Begin Toledo recording] The president has decided to decree a state of siege after personal meetings and telephone consultations with his main advisers. The president arrived at Government House at 0500 and immediately held a meeting with Interior Minister Julio Mera Figueroa; Alberto Kohan, minister of [public health and] social action; Senator Eduardo Menem; and the presidential spokesman. After assessing the situation, and based on information from the interior minister, the three chiefs of staff, and Admiral Emilio Osses, chief of the joint staff, the president decided to decree a state of siege.

[Unidentified reporter] (?Are there any casualties)?

[Toledo] We still have no official information on that topic.

[Reporter] (?Has it been) confirmed that the Libertador Building—Army headquarters—is still occupied by the so-called Painted Faces group, as well as the 1st Patricios Regiment? Do you have any last-minute information in this regard? Can you confirm this information?

[Toledo] The comments you are making do not refer to what I am telling you. The official information I am giving you is that we know about two incidents where very small groups of men wearing military uniforms appeared at the guard posts of the Libertador Building and the Patricios Regiment and dislodged the guards. This is the official information we have at this time. [end recording]

That was presidential spokesman Humberto Toledo. He promised to return to the press room in five minutes with fresh information. We will get in contact with you as soon as possible.

'Painted Faces' Take Over Regiment

PY0312100090 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0930 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Dec (NA)—The government decreed a state of siege this morning after learning about several incidents at various military garrisons that have apparently been taken over by officers and noncommissioned officers from the Painted Faces sector.

The incidents reportedly began at 0500 GMT when a group of rebels took over the Libertador Building, Army Staff headquarters. It was later learned that another group had taken over the Patricios Regiment and the tank factory in Boulogne.

There were reportedly five wounded when a group of approximately [no number as received] soldiers tried to recover the Patricios Regiment, but no official information has been released on this incident.

Staff Reports Arrest of Seineldin

PY0312101090 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0958 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 December (NA)—The Army staff has reported that Colonel Mohamed Ali Seineldin "is under arrest" at a military unit in San Martin de Los Andes.

Seinedlin was arrested because of a letter he tried to personally deliver to President Carlos Menem at the Olivos presidential residence.

Situation in 11th Mechanized Infantry Normal

PY0312100590 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0925 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Rio Gallegos, 3 Dec (TELAM)—Colonel Hector Mario Giralda, commander of the 11th Mechanized Infantry Brigade headquartered in this city, has categorically denied reports on "an abnormal situation in any of the units under his command."

Consulted by TELAM, he said that "all the units of his brigade are subordinated to their regular commanders" and that "the orders that are received from the Army general staff through the 5th Army Division command are being strictly complied with."

Col. Giralda added that "any displacement or movement that may be observed in the Army units will be the result of normal measures of guard and security reinforcements that are adopted in these cases.

'Completely Normal' in 2d Corps

PY0312101890 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0940 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Rosario, Santa Fe (TELAM)—Brigadier General Diego Alejandro Soria, commander of the 2d Corps, has been meeting with the high-ranking chiefs under his command since 0800 GMT at the Corps headquarters. Military sources have informed TELAM that everything is completely normal in this unit.

10th Brigade Units Responding

PY0312105190 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1014 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] La Plata, 3 Dec (NA)—Spokesmen of the 10th Brigade seated in La Plata have informed NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS that all the units under their command are responding to their normal chain of command.

The 10th Brigade, commanded by Colonel Patricio Gasquet, has under its command the 7th Regiment of La Plata, the 3d Regiment of La Tablada, the 6th Regiment of Mercedes, the 10th Logistics Battalion in Villa Martelli, the La Plata Communications Command, and the 601st Communications Company in City Bell.

Situation at Patricios Described

PY0312110690 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1022 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Dec (TELAM)—Military and Federal Police personnel are guarding the surroundings and gardens of the Patricios Regiment, headquartered in Palermo.

Shortly after 0730 two people—one dressed in jeans and a black shirt and another dressed in a military uniform—were withdrawn, apparently under arrest, by two regiment officers. It is not known where they have been taken.

In the meantime, traffic along Bulrich Avenue between Santa Fe and Libertador Avenues has been completely blocked off.

Eight military men are set up on either side of the main entrance to the regiment headquarters. Soldiers armed with machine guns can also be seen throughout the gardens.

Military men entering the Palermo garrison told journalists posted there that "helicopters and reinforcements" were about to arrive. Personnel who work at the regiment are at the entrance waiting to be let in to work.

Army Confirms 3 Killed

PY0312120190 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1130 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Dec (NA)—The Army has officially confirmed that Lieutenant Colonel Hernan Pita, Major Federico Pedernera, and a corporal who last name is Sanchez have been killed. They all belonged to the 1st Patricios Regiment which was at the center of a clash between rebel and loyal forces.

The Army also issued a list of the wounded. They are being treated at the Central Military Hospital. The list is as follows: Corporal Machado, Corporal Gerardo Sanchez, Main Noncommissioned Officer Jorge Matias, First Lieutenant Alberto Maciel, and two other soldiers whose names were not released.

The injured are in surgery and their state of health is not known.

Communique No. 3 Reports 3 Dead

PY0312140990 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1243 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Dec (TELAM)—At 1030 [1230 GMT], the Army General Staff issued Communique No. 3 which states:

The Army General Staff regrets to have to inform that in an attempt to recover the 1st Patricios Infantry Regiment, Infantry Lieutenant Colonel Hernan Pita, Infantry Major Federico Pedernera, and First Corporal Sanchez were killed by the rebel troops at the mentioned regiment.

First Lieutenant Alberto Maciel, Noncommissioned Officer Jose Matias, First Corporal Gerardo Sanchez, and First Corporal Machado, all belonging to the 1st Patricios Infantry Regiment, and corporals Gonzalez and Gomez, of the San Martin Granaderos Mounted Regiment, were wounded.

7th Artillery Group 'Completely Calm'

PY0312111890 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1014 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Resistencia, 3 Dec (TELAM)—The situation at the 7th Artillery Group seated in Resistencia "is completely calm". This was reported to TELAM by a spokesman from the unit, which falls under the command of the 12th Brigade of the 2d Corps.

The information, as well as other details, were reported through a telephone call.

5th Army Corps Said 'Normal'

PY0312115190 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1119 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Bahia Blanca, 3 Dec (TELAM)—A spokesman of the 5th Army Corps has told TELAM that the situation is completely normal in that military unit. He added that the commanders are meeting and that they are closely following the events in the federal capital.

He gave assurance that the situation in the military unit is completely normal.

Revolt Reportedly Will Not Affect Bush Visit

PY0312114090 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1049 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Dec (TELAM)—Presidential spokesman Humberto Toledo today stressed that the events caused "by those small groups"—alluding to the incidents caused by the "Painted Faces" in some military units—"will in no way disrupt U.S. President George Bush's visit to Argentina," which is scheduled for 5 December.

In his statement at Government House, however, Toledo noted: "The groups that have caused these incidents are trying to disrupt the life of society, and I am also aware that their actions could be aimed at disrupting Bush's visit."

The spokesman reported that President Carlos Menem is not planning to formally summon political parties because party leaders have already contacted the president, among them former President Raul Alfonsin, who spoke with Menem over the phone.

This morning Menem held a working breakfast with national Deputies Cesar Jaroslavsky (Radical Civic Union), Roberto Ulloa (Salta Renewal Party), and Miguel Angel Toma (Justicialist Party).

Toledo also noted that the president has been in contact with authorities from the Armed Forces.

Radical Civic Union Leader Supports Menem

PY0312113290 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1043 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Dec (TELAM)—Cesar Jaroslavsky, leader of the Radical Civic Union [UCR] bloc of the Chamber of Deputies, said that the idea now is "to strengthen the democratic system and to unconditionally support the president in defense of the constitutional order."

Jaroslavsky, who made these remarks upon leaving Government House after meeting with President Carlos Menem, said that "we came to express our solidarity at this deplorable and unpleasant situation the country is experiencing."

Jaroslavsky said that he explained to President Menem his and Raul Alfonsin's position that it is necessary to "strengthen the democratic system and unconditionally support the president in defense of the constitutional order."

He added: "The president has decided to act with great energy, and I hope that good sense will prevail over the fanaticism that has led these people to carry out these actions."

Situation 'Normal' at 12th Infantry Brigade

PY0312115790 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1124 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Posadas, 3 Dec (TELAM)—A military source has told TELAM that the situation at the 12th Infantry Brigade headquartered in Posadas "is completely normal."

It has been reported that Brigadier General Luis Alberto Cloux, commander of this military unit, has been meeting with high-ranking military men since early this morning.

5th Army Corps Activity Typical

PY0312115190 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1119 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Bahia Blanca, 3 Dec (TELAM)—A spokesman of the 5th Army Corps told TELAM that the situation is completely normal in that military unit. He added that the commanders are meeting and that they are closely following the events in the federal capital.

He gave assurance that the situation in the military unit is completely normal.

Army Communiques Report 'Mutinous' Actions

PY0312120890 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1120 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Dec (NA)—The Army General Staff has officially reported the following:

"1. Before dawn today, a mutinous group of about 50 men partially took over the Army General Staff building.

2. The 1st Patricios Regiment was also partially taken over. The army staff chief has established his command at the Granaderos Regiment.

3. The commanders of all four corps throughout the country are in full command of their units.

4. Colonel Seineldin is still being held under arrest in San Martin de Los Andes.

5. Orders to recover the installations have been given."

Another communique states:

"1. Mutinous Argentine Army and civilian groups that are trying to alter the development plans currently in force have rebelled and partially taken over the Patricios Regiment and the Army General Staff building.

2. The Army is adopting the necessary measures to neutralize the actions of these groups and restore order in an organized manner.

3. [Words indistinct] the troops that tried to take over the Patricios Regiment.

4. Actions to recover these installations have been undertaken."

Defense Ministry Issues Communique

PY0312121690 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1108 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Dec (NA)—The Defense Ministry has reported that "in the wake of actions by a seditious group that wants to disturb Argentina's progress along the path toward democracy, the Armed Forces and security forces have taken action to preserve the law, the Constitution, and the people's sovereignty."

In a communique released a few minutes before 0900, the Defense Ministry states that "the chief of the joint staff and the chiefs of the Navy and Air Force staffs are in their respective command posts; the Army chief of staff has established his command at the headquarters of the General San Martin Mounted Grenadiers Regiment."

The communique adds that "the commanders are in continuing contact with the president and the Defense Ministry."

The communique concludes by saying that the ministry "wants to stress to the public that no one should get the wrong idea, because the constitutional system will not be disrupted by minority groups that want to attack democracy."

7th Infantry Brigade 'Normal'

PY0312121390 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1145 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Mendoza, 3 Dec (TELAM)—Colonel Honorio Silvio Camporro, commander of the 7th Mountain Infantry Brigade headquartered in this province, shortly after 0700 (western Argentine time) said that "the situation in the military units based in Mendoza, San Juan, and San Luis Provinces is completely normal."

Camporro also reported that the transfer of command ceremony that was to have taken place at the 7th Brigade this afternoon at 1930 has been suspended. He did not specify the date when Brigadier General Carlos Alberto Settel will perform the transfer of command.

Two Bombs Explode in Rosario Province

PY0312122190 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1126 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Rosario, 3 Dec (TELAM)—Two bombs have exploded outside two houses in Rosario, causing material damage but no injuries.

The first explosion occurred outside the house of Municipal Council Chairman Carlos Lopez, from the Justicialist Party, who lives in an industrial neighborhood. The other explosion took place outside the local "White Berets" radical committee [not further identified] headquarters in the southern part of the city. No group has so far claimed responsibility for the attacks.

Vice President's Helicopter Reportedly Shot At

PY0312132090 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1253 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Dec (EFE)—According to witnesses, military rebels in the Libertador Building [Army headquarters] shot at a helicopter carrying Argentine Vice President Eduardo Duhalde to Government House.

The incident took place a little before 1000 (1200 GMT) as the helicopter was about to land in back of the Government House building, 200 meters from the rebels' location.

The witnesses said the pilot was able to continue flying despite some shots hitting the aircraft's fuselage.

Political sources told the media that the helicopter was carrying Vice President Eduardo Duhalde—who was unharmed—to Government House.

Further on Duhalde's Helicopter

LD0312141190 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 1300 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] According to a report that has just reached this newsroom, eyewitnesses have said that the helicopter in which the Argentinian vice president, Eduardo Duhalde, was flying to the Casa Rosada, the seat of the government in Buenos Aires, was hit by shots fired by the military rebels occupying the Army Staff Headquarters. Vice President Duhalde was unhurt and the helicopter was able to continue its flight, in spite of the fact that some shots hit its fuselage. According to these sources, the events occurred when the helicopter was preparing to land behind the Casa Rosada, close to where the rebels are located. [passage omitted]

Decree Issued on Nationwide State of Siege

PY0312130990 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1118 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Dec (NA)—President Carlos Menem has signed a decree declaring the nationwide state of siege as of today.

Clauses of the decree state: "Considering the internal commotion caused by a group who have made an attempt on the legal authority of Army units, and considering that this situation demands the adoption of all necessary measures to defend the Constitution and those who enforce it, and that the Constitution itself provides for the declaration of a state of siege in case of a situation of this type, the urgent need to enforce this measure justifies the doctrine that empowers the executive branch to adopt essential measures and subsequently inform Congress."

The president has thus declared a state of siege over the entire national territory. The decree comes into force today.

Rebellious 601st Battalion Commander Surrenders

PY0312124290 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1215 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Dec (NA)—Colonel Vega, commander of the rebellious 601st Battalion, has surrendered after his unit was hit with mortar fire.

One of the rounds hit a weapons arsenal and the other hit the battalion parade grounds. The mortar fire came from the Military School, which is under the command of General Ruiz Palacios.

Army Personnel Chief General Mario Candido Diaz and Army Finance Director General Jose Luis Torres are also headquartered in this unit.

[Madrid EFE in Spanish at 1231 GMT on 3 December reports that the 601st Battalian is stationed in the "El Palomar" neighborhood of Buenos Aires.]

Communique No. 4 on 601st Battalion

PY0312133590 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1317 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Dec (TELAM)—Today at 1105 [1305 GMT], the Army staff released Communique No. 4, which states:

"The Argentine Army reports that on 3 December at 1000, members of the National Military School recovered the installations of the 601st Quartermasters Battalion, located in El Palomar.

"Seventy men are under arrest. No casualties have been registered."

Situation at 3d Corps Absolutely Normal

PY0312124790 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1228 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Cordoba, 3 Dec (NA)—3d Corps Commander General Jorge Alberto Maffei has said that "the situation is completely normal" in his military unit.

In a telephone conversation with local radio stations, Maffei said that his unit is carrying out "its scheduled activities." He reasserted that "the situation is normal." He refused to comment on the decisions adopted in the face of the events that occurred in the federal capital.

He said that early this morning he learned about the events occurring in Buenos Aires. He made it clear that he had no accurate information on the events.

The Cordoba Provincial governor has not yet released a communique on the situation because Governor Eduardo Angeloz has remained at his official residence since 0800 and has not yet gone to his office.

Provincial police sources have reported that special surveillance measures have been adopted in the city, especially near public buildings. It has been made clear, however, that the situation is completely normal.

According to rumors that circulated early this morning, the mass media, including the state-owned radio station Cordoba, were raided by supporters of the uprising.

Shots at Government House; Menem To Speak

PY0312132190 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1300 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Dec (NA)—Several shots were heard a few minutes ago at Government House while groups of legislators and journalists headed for the entrance on Rivadavia Street.

Moreover, unofficial sources have reported that the national network has been set up so that President Menem may address the nation.

Tanks Heading for Patricios Regiment Headquarters

PY0312123590 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1154 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Dec (NA)—Shortly after 0900 [1100 GMT], six tanks left the 8th Magdalena Regiment to defend the loyal troops of the 1st Patricios Infantry Regiment, where the situation remains unclear.

According to military sources, the tanks, which could already have left Highway 33, will arrive in Buenos Aires around noon.

Menem Orders Army To 'Extinguish' Rebels

PY0312130090 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1220 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Dec (NA)—President Carlos Menem has reportedly instructed Army Chief Martin Bonnet to "completely extinguish" the rebel focal point centered at the Patricios Regiment.

Military sources have reported that President Menem phoned the Army chief of staff at 1143 to be briefed on the overall situation. Menem gave orders to Bonnet and told him: "I assume complete responsibility" for the operation.

Situation in 5th Brigade Usual

PY0312132390 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1258 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] San Miguel de Tucuman, 3 Dec (TELAM)—Absolute calm prevails at the 5th Brigade and at the 19th Infantry Regiment, which is in the western part of this province.

During a visit to the 5th Brigade Command, Mayor Ibazeta reported that routine tasks are being carried out at this unit and that the situation is normal.

The situation is similar at the 19th Infantry Regiment, located in the western part of the city. It could be seen that officials, NCOs, and soldiers are carrying out their morning exercises.

An on-duty officer, who did not want to identify himself, has said: "Nothing has occurred here yet."

'Calm Prevails' in Santiago del Estero Province

PY0312133190 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1254 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Santiago del Estero, 3 Dec (TELAM)—Absolute calm prevails throughout this province, and the commentaries at the military level on the events that are taking place in Buenos Aires are minimal.

A spokesman of the 141st Combat Engineers Battalion has told TELAM: "There is nothing to report."

Santiago del Estero Governor Cesar Iturre went to his office, where he was continuously informed of the events.

Activities are being carried out under absolute calm.

Menem Phones President Bush; Visit 'Still On'

PY0312140390 Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color Network in Spanish 1338 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Relay from Government House by Jorge Pasos]

[Text] Presidential Spokesman Humberto Toledo is now meeting the representatives of the television channels. He has just confirmed that the president of the nation spoke to U.S. President George Bush a few minutes ago. It has been confirmed that Bush's tour will continue and that, so far, the U.S. President's visit to Argentina is still on.

Rebel Spokesman Interviewed on Situation

PY0312135290 Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color Network in Spanish 1110 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Interview with unidentified officer representing rebellious troops at the entrance to the 1st Patricios Regiment in the Palermo neighborhood of Buenos Aires by unidentified reporter—live]

[Text] [Unidentified officer] I am acting as spokesman for Colonel (Baraldin), who has taken charge of the Palermo headquarters.

[Unidentified reporter] Are you the Painted Faces?

[Officer] Yes, we are the Painted Faces.

[Reporter] What is your objective?

[Officer] Above all, I want to say that we are officers of the Argentine Army. We are not a group of dissidents; we belong to the Argentine Army.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Officer] Excuse me, I first want to explain—and this should be quite clear—that we are going through an extremely serious time.

[Reporter] Have there been any casualties?

[Officer] I will answer your questions after I have said what I have to tell you. First, I want to tell you that this is not a coup. This should be made clear, especially to the media, which has the responsibility of informing the citizens, so you can inform them in an objective manner. This is not a coup. We recognize President Menem as commander in chief of the Armed Forces, but within the Army we do not recognize any other authority but that of the legitimate commander, Colonel [Mohamed Ali] Seineldin. I want you to make this quite clear.

[Reporter] What is the purpose of this rebellion?

[Officer] This is a continuation of the three previous rebellions, and it shows the divisions that exist within our Army.

[Reporter] Where is Col. Seineldin?

[Officer] I want explain something very important, and this is for our fellow members of the Argentine Army. I ask you to report this accurately also. A battle took place here this morning—a fierce battle. It surprises me, in my capacity as a chief officer of the Argentine Army, that this battle was more effective than the battle at La Tablada. They opened fire without hesitation against our brothers in here, and with more firepower and aggressiveness. They put lives at stake more than they did at La Tablada.

[Reporter] Were there any casualties?

[Officer] Yes, there were casualties, but I cannot tell you how many.

[Reporter] Were they caused by you?

[Officer] I believe both parties sustained casualties. It was a clash, a clash in which, according to the information I have, troops from the Mounted Grenadiers Regiment were used to recover the Palermo barracks.

[Reporter] What is your objective?

[Officer] Our objective is the same as that of the Easter weekend uprising, which was never fulfilled because our generals do not represent the thoughts and feelings of our Army—of the entire Army.

[Reporter] How long are you going to stay here?

[Officer] I do not understand.

[Reporter] There was a report on Friday, 30 November, that there would be a movement on Monday. On Friday people at Government House knew about a movement on Monday.

[Officer] I do not know, I would have to find out....

[Reporter, interrupting] How long are you going to stay here?

[Officer] We are going to stay here until we achieve our goals. Just a minute, please. I want to sav that the dialogue started with the firing of shots. We seized this unit, which was taken over by Col. Seineldin, which houses the logistic support command, the 1st Patricios Regiment, the military district, and the quartermaster barracks. All of these elements that make up the Palermo garrison are under Col. (Baraldin)'s command. The Boulogne and (Tanze) barracks have also been seized, and they are under the command of Colonel (Romero Mundani). We have also seized the El Palomar quartermaster barracks, which are under the command of Colonel Vega. He has the support of the quartermaster troops, the military college, the engineers' company, and a few other Campo de Mayo men. Moreover, we have deployed two armored task forces. For operational reasons I cannot tell you where they are located at this moment.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Officer] It was recovered. The attempt was repelled. The attempted attack at dawn today was repelled.

[Reporter] Here, at the Patricios Regiment guard post?

[Officer] The Patricios Regiment guard....

[Reporter, interrupting] Did Col. Seineldin seize the regiment?

[Officer] It was not seized by Col.Seineldin. I repeat, these barracks were seized by Col. (Baraldin). The Army general staff headquarters were also seized.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Officer] No, those of us who were attacked were not able to evacuate the corporals.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Officer] Naturally, do not even doubt it.

[Reporter] Why did you continue to fire your weapons after some corporals were lying on the ground wounded?

[Officer] Who was shooting?

[Reporter] You, from inside.

[Officer] Sorry, the attack started from outside.

[Reporter] But it was repelled from inside.

[Text] [Officer] The attack was repelled. I do not know the exact consequences of the attack. But, I repeat, the attack started from the outside. We had....

[Reporter, interrupting] Is it possible that 35 million Argentine citizens are waiting on a small armed group?

[Officer] I'm sorry, what sector of the media do you represent?

[Reporter] [Name indistinct] Radio del Plata.

[Officer] I see. Could you repeat your question please?

[Reporter] Do you think 35 million Argentine citizens can be waiting on the actions of an armed group?

[Officer] Do you think we can have an Army that is not worthy of the people it represents? Do you think we can have an Army without honor, without dignity? What do you mean by who elected me? What do you mean by who elected me? [repeats himself]

[Reporter] Who voted for you?

[Officer] Absolutely nobody voted for me, nor does anybody have to vote for me. Nobody has used.... [changes thought] Gentlemen, I ask you to be accurate in your....

[Reporter, interrupting] This is an attack against democracy.

[Officer] I do not represent an attack against democracy.

[Reporter] Doesn't this represent an attack against the commander in chief, who is also the president of the Republic?

[Officer] It is not an attack against democracy. The problem is that the commander in chief has constantly been ill-advised. Haven't you heard about the unity of the Army, about the cohesion that prevails within the Armed Forces?

[Reporter] You should obey your natural commander.

[Officer] I am not going to engage in a debate. I only came to inform you of the situation. I am not going to engage in any debate.

[Reporter] Where is Col. Seineldin now?

[Officer] Col. Seineldin is under arrest.

[Reporter] How will this end?

[Officer] I do not know.

[Reporter] Are you going to continue armed resistance?

[Officer] Yes, sir. Yes, sir. Yes, sir.

[Reporter] Despite the casualties?

[Officer] Despite the casualties, and despite anything. We are....

[Reporter, interrupting] You are attacking the commander in chief of the Army, who is also the president of the Republic.

[Officer] We are rebelling against the Army leadership.

[Reporter] Has Col. Seineldin authorized this?

[Officer] We answer to Col. Seineldin. He is under arrest. We answer to Col. Seineldin as the only legitimate authority within the Argentine Army.

[Reporter] Are you going to try to free him?

[Officer] No, we are not going to try to free him.

[Reporter] Are you trying to get Seineldin to take charge of the Army?

[Officer] I cannot answer that question because that is not my specific duty at this moment.

[Reporter] Who is the commander of these operations?

[Officer] The junta of colonels that respond to Col. Seineldin's leadership.

[Reporter] Are you going to try to free Seineldin?

[Officer] No, we are not going to try to free him.

[Reporter] Are the building's communications operational?

[Officer] Yes, sir.

[Reporter] Were they ever cut?

[Officer] No, sir.

[Reporter] Can you tell us how many people were wounded?

[Officer] No, I cannot tell you exactly. I know there were some people wounded, but I cannot tell you how many.

[Reporter] Is this meant to coincide with President George Bush's visit?

[Officer] By no means. By no means. [repeats himself] I will keep you informed as long as you promise to report the truth. Remember that people were misinformed during the Easter weekend [uprising], and it was stated that a civil war would break out if a single shot was fired. Therefore, I ask you to please be sincere and to accurately inform the people about developments. I am not saying that the media was responsible; I am only asking you to report developments in an accurate manner.

[Reporter] Are you going to offer resistance?

[Officer] Yes, we are going to offer resistance.

[Reporter] Is the Army still divided?

[Officer] What makes you think it is divided?

[Reporter] Could we meet with you again at 0900, in about an hour?

[Officer] We can meet again. I want to repeat something that should be made quite clear. I do not know if any of you were there for the La Tablada clashes. Remember the time it took, the work it took the demolish the regiment with artillery to dislodge the 60 rebels? Compare what happened then with what happened this morning. In my capacity as an Argentine Army officer, I must confess that I am truly hurt—as are the rest of the personnel—about the way in which they opened fire without any hesitation against their comrades who.... [end recording]

[ATC Director Omar Gomez Sanchez informs viewers that the tape recorder of the ATC reporter on the scene ran out of tape]

'Violent Clash' Reported at Coast Guard Building

PY0312134390 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1325 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Nov (NA)—A violent clash is taking place right now at the Coast Guard building, the headquarters of the Argentine Coast Guard service. According to preliminary reports, members of the former Albatross group are trying to take over the building.

A bus on route no. 140 was hit several times by bullets that came from the Coast Guard building.

Building Closed for Security Reasons

PY0312134990 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1300 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Dec (TELAM)—The duty officer at the main gate of the "Coast Guard" building, the headquarters of the Argentine Coast Guard service, has said that the building has been closed to the public "for security measures" and that only Coast Guard personnel are allowed to enter the compound.

The officer said: "No incidents have taken place, but access to the building is not being allowed for security reasons." He added that the Coast Guard press office, headed by Prefect Babini, will release a communique in the next few hours.

Attack 'Imminent' at Patricios Regiment

PY0312135790 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1335 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Dec (NA)—The Federal Police have just forced the journalists who are near the Patricios Regiment in Palermo to withdraw because "an attack is imminent."

The Patricios Regiment has been occupied since dawn today by a Painted Faces sector of the Army, who will now be dislodged by loyal forces.

Units Prepare for Attack

PY0312141790 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1406 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Dec (NA)—Units deployed from Magdalena are currently taking up positions in front of the 1st Patricios Regiment, in Palermo, which has been occupied since dawn today by Army rebels.

Approximately half an hour ago, members of the Federal Police dislodged journalists from the area, stating that an attack on the unit to dislodge the rebels "was imminent."

Situation 'Normal' at Federal Police Office

PY0312142590 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1302 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Dec (TELAM)—The chief of the Federal Police Press Office said this morning that the situation within that institution is "absolutely normal." He made it clear, however, that "the guard has been reinforced at the Federal Police central headquarters."

He said that security measures have been adopted in areas of Buenos Aires where military men were confined to their barracks. The Metropolitan Security Superintendency is in charge of implementing these measures.

Five Hostages Released From Patricios Regiment

PY0312143390 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1316 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Dec (TELAM)—Five noncommissioned officers who were held as hostages by the "Painted Faces," who this morning took over the Patricios Regiment in Palermo district, have been freed.

The five released noncommissioned officers declined to make statements to the journalists who are near the battalion, and immediately withdrew from the area.

Commander Reports All Usual at Jujuy Garrison

PY0312144490 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1256 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] San Salvador de Jujuy, 3 Dec (TELAM)—Lieutenant Colonel Hector Cerrato, commander of the "Los Andes Hunters" 20th Infantry Regiment, has said that "there is nothing" to report at the Jujuy Garrison.

Speaking on the phone with TELAM, Cerrato said that activities are "normal." Asked whether special measures had been adopted because of the situation in Buenos Aires, he reasserted: "Activities are normal."

Army Communique No. 5: Troops Begin Operations

PY0312142790 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1320 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Dec (TELAM)—At 1110 [1310] the Army General Staff issued Communique No. 5, which states:

"The Army General Staff hereby informs the citizenry that, at 1030, fulfilling orders received from the chief of the Army General Staff, the following units have been deployed: The 10th Mechanized Infantry Brigade, the 3rd, 6th, and 7th Mechanized Infantry Regiments, the 1st Armored Cavalry Exploration Squadron, the 1st Artillery Group, the 10th Engineers Company, and the 10th Communications Company to begin operations to recover the units seized by the rebels."

Presidential Spokesman: Martial Law 'Option'

PY0312143990 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1330 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Report by Silvina Martinez Porta from Government House]

[Text] Presidential spokesman Humberto Toledo, has said:

[Begin recording] [Toledo] The president has not foreseen using the national radio and television network.

[Unidentified reporter] [Words indistinct] ... the possibility of declaring martial law?

[Toledo] It is one option included in the powers, legal mechanisms, and decisions of Congress that it can implement, or it may choose to deeply study the mechanisms of the current laws. [end recording]

That was the presidential spokesman. Toledo also confirmed that U.S. President George Bush, in an expression of solidarity, has confirmed his upcoming visit to Argentina next Wednesday.

'Military Sources' Say Rebels Total 140 Men

PY0312145490 Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color Network in Spanish 1435 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] According to military sources, the Libertador building, which houses Army headquarters, and the Patricios Infantry Regiment were taken over by a total of 140 members of the Painted Faces group today.

There are about 100 rebels under the command of former Captain (Breide Oveil) in the Libertador building. Meanwhile, in the Patricios Regiment, there are 40 men under the command of Colonel (Baraldini), who until today served as chief of the Buenos Aires military district.

According to military sources, the Army is concentrating enough forces to launch a quick and conclusive action to recover the occupied military installations.

'Painted Faces' Raid Tank Factory

PY0312145590 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1238 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Dec (TELAM)—Activity at the Esteban Deluca Arsenal of the 601st Battalion, headquartered in the Buenos Aires district of Boulogne, is normal. The Argentine Medium-Size Tank Factory No. 2, located in an adjacent lot, was raided by a group of "Painted Faces" military men who are reportedly led by Colonel Romero Mundani.

An officer of the 601st Battalion, who did not want to identify himself, told the press: "We are loyal, and there has not been any raid here."

Military men with painted faces who were outside the tank factory, however, refused to talk with the journalists and forced them to move away at machine-gun point.

Three tanks and heavily armed military forces lying on the ground are outside the factory main gate. This situation has not prevented normal traffic from using Rolon Avenue up to block 14.

A truck with two machine guns on its roof, which was carrying military personnel with painted faces, a private dump truck, and a blue Renault 12 car, all driven by individuals with painted faces, entered Rolon Avenue at 0900 [1100 GMT].

A school bus and a tanker truck owned by the YPF [Government Oil Deposits] carrying Painted Faces also entered the factory. The school bus subsequently left.

Situation in Bariloche Garrison Typical

PY0312145090 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1217 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Bariloche, 3 Dec (TELAM)—Colonel Juan Llavar, chief of the military garrison and director of the Mountain Troops Military School in San Carlos de Bariloche, reported this morning that the situation in those units "is absolutely normal."

In a brief talk with TELAM, Col. Llavar asked that a message of tranquility be conveyed to the population. He noted that "the situation is normal" in this city and throughout Rio Negro Province, and that today is a "normal work day."

He said that he will contact Bariloche Mayor Eduardo Gagliardi to assure him that "there is no uneasiness among the military" in the region." [quotation marks as received]

Deputy Says UCR Opposes Military in Gulf

PY0212025490 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2051 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 1 Dec (NA)—According to Deputy Antonio Berhongaray [Radical Civic Union, UCR] today, radicalism will not support in Congress any authorization for Argentine ships to fight in the Persian Gulf because it believes "the interests at stake there are those of the first world" and "that is not our war."

At the same time, the Chamber of Deputies president, Justicialist Alberto Pierri, estimated today that the house will not discuss the draft law proposing congressional authorization for Argentine troops to participate in an eventual war in the Persian Gulf until 6 December.

Pierri said he was "very comforted" by President Carlos Menem's decision to submit the draft to Congress so the final decision on the subject could be made by the legislators because this shows "he is doing as he promised." [passage omitted]

Berhongaray recalled that the Radical Civil Union "has always upheld neutrality, and except for very special situations within the region, this stance cannot be modified."

Menem To Ask Congress About Force in Gulf

PY3011231890 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2300 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 30 Nov (TELAM)—President Carlos Menem stated tonight that on 3 December, he will submit a draft bill to Congress to "establish whether we will engage in combat in the Persian Gulf area or merely maintain our naval forces for consolidation and control of the embargo on Iraq."

Menem made this announcement in response to a question about a UN Security Council decision on the use of force in the Persian Gulf. Menem made this announcement at the closing ceremony of the Latin American writers meeting at Cervantes National Theater.

'Complete Support' for Initiative Reported

PY0112012290 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 30 Nov 90 p 3

[From the "Business World" column]

[Text] (DYN)—Under Secretary for Latin American Affairs Raul Carignano yesterday underlined Argentina's "complete support" for US President George Bush's Americas Initiative, which he described as "a landmark of immense importance" for the region. He claimed that the initiative was forcing Latin American

countries to coordinate, for the first time, their position towards the US, deepening intra-regional dialogue, and promoting economic integration.

Menem Says Country To Ratify Tlatelolco Treaty

PY3011150290 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0149 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 29 Nov (TELAM)—President Carlos Menem stressed today that Argentina "will ratify the Tlatelolco Treaty," and he revealed that talks are under way with Brazil to "rapidly implement an agreement on the nonproliferation and nonmanufacture of chemical weapons" in the region.

Menem also maintained that "tax evasion is corruption," and he announced that today he signed a decree that extends coverage of the VAT [value-added tax], meaning "greater tax control and a reduction of the type of actions that harm Argentine society."

The president stated that the matter of the Pan-American Highway toll "has been politicized" because "there are mayors in that area who want to be governors," and he stressed that "those who do not want to travel on that highway will be able to use five free roads."

On the U.S. President's proposal for a free trade zone in America and a similar proposal by the EEC, Menem stated: "We have to take advantage of a favorable situation," but this "depends on our capability, intelligence, and quickness to act."

The president made these remarks when he departed from the text of his speech at the conclusion of the "Conference on Deregularization and Competition in a Key Sector of the Economy" at the Plaza Hotel and after the speech, when he chatted with the press.

Menem said he "had expected the reactions" against the state reform implemented by the government because "every step that we have made in this respect has run into entrenched interests in society;" this is a product of "collaboration between the public and private sectors, between contractors and suppliers, and between state and provincial officials."

Within the framework of the country's new policies, Menem highlighted the nuclear agreement signed yesterday with Brazil—which was "not in anyone's forecasts"—because it is "for peace and not war," and he maintained that Argentina "will ratify the Tlatelolco Treaty."

He also revealed: "In view of an issue that arose in the talks with Brazilian President Fernando Collor de Mello, we are quickly instrumenting the signing of an agreement to prevent the proliferation and manufacture of chemical weapons, which have caused a great deal of devastation." It is "possible" that Chile will sign this document. [passage omitted]

Minister Lauds Nuclear Accord With Brazil

PY3011205790 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2012 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Excerpt] Cordoba, 29 Nov (TELAM)—Defense Minister Humberto Romero has stated that Argentina "never wanted to build a nuclear device." After emphasizing the significance of the nuclear integration agreement signed with Brazil, Romero noted that Argentina "is not spending any money on the deployment of its troops to the Persian Gulf."

In remarks to reporters after watching military exercises by personnel of the 3d Army Corps, Romero conveyed his satisfaction over "the joint Argentine-Brazilian decision to not make nuclear devices," which "has given us a feeling of great tranquillity."

Romero watched the exercises in the compound of the 3d Corps in the company of General Martin Bonnet, the Army chief of staff, and General Jorge Maffey, commander of the 3d Corps.

Reaffirming that Argentina never intended to make a nuclear device, Romero commented on reports that Brazil did have the possibility to implement this type of project. He said: "Now, through this regional integration agreement, we have eliminated the chances of future conflicts."

Romero added that "possibilities of conflict exist when a nation is threatened," but "the elimination of the chances to make nuclear devices, which we hope applies to the entire Southern Cone for the people's sake," shows that "we are moving in the right direction."

In reply to a question, Romero reiterated: "Argentina is not spending any money on the deployment of its troops to the Persian Gulf." He noted that "all expenses connected with the deployment of the two Argentine ships have been taken care of through diplomatic channels." [passage omitted]

Bank President Pledges Financial Stability

PY0112012890 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 30 Nov 90 p 3

[Text] (DYN)—Central Bank (BCRA) President Javier Gonzalez Fraga yesterday pledged that there would be no return to the "dollar of the 80's, with its capital flight and hyperinflationary risks," unless Argentina chose to step backwards.

Gonzalez Fraga, who was giving a speech at a forum on "deregulation and competition" held by the Social Market Economy Institute (IESM) in the Plaza hotel, pointed to the fact that the expansion in the money supply during this month—which went entirely towards acquiring foreign currency reserves—was 12 percent below that in October.

This emphasis on currency purchases was necessary, he said "to reestablish liquidity and to maintain confidence in the government's monetary policy."

He dismissed the likelihood of a dramatic surge [in] the exchange rate of the US dollar—which in real terms is at its lowest since 1981—and he underlined that the Central Bank would not devalue the austral and would continue to allow the currency markets to operate freely.

Turning to the issue of the banking reserve requirements—which in some accounts reach 80 percent—Gonzalez Fraga forecast that "during 1991 these will fall," but he warned that this could only be done in so far as the economic consolidates.

Finally he revealed that the volume of M1—the total cash in circulation plus the funds stored in current accounts—now amounted to "four billion dollars," representing slightly less than three percent of the Gross Domestic Product.

IMF Approves Disbursement of Installment

PY0112011890 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2330 GMT 28 Nov 90

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 28 Nov (NA)—Economy Minister Erman Gonzalez has announced here that the IMF Board of Directors today authorized disbursement of a $240-million installment that is part of a standby [preceding word in English] credit granted to Argentina in 1989.

After receiving information from his assistants, who are in Washington for the IMF Board of Directors meeting, the economy minister announced that the disbursement will take place on 3 December 1990.

Gonzalez made it clear that 25 percent of that amount will be withheld by the IMF to set up a reserve for future debt negotiations with the creditor banks.

The economy minister noted that this is the third disbursement Argentina has received on a $1.4-million credit originally granted during the tenure of his predecessor, Nestor Rapanelli. [passage omitted]

Cavallo Departs for GATT Talks in Brussels

PY3011191590 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2328 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 29 Nov (TELAM)—Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo today departed for Brussels, Belgium, to participate in the closing meetings of the Uruguay Round of the GATT talks.

Cavallo departed at 2020 with a small entourage that included Foreign Ministry officials who are experts on GATT negotiations. They departed from Ezeiza International Airport for Madrid.

According to the Foreign Ministry, after arriving in Madrid on Aerolineas Argentinas Flight 146, Cavallo will travel to Brussels to (?listen) to the conversations between the United States and the EEC on agriculture tariffs.

Cavallo will participate in the negotiations until 4 December when he will return to this capital because on the following day U.S. President George Bush will begin his official visit to Argentina.

Given the tight agenda of the foreign minister for the next few days, diplomatic sources reported that the trip Cavallo was supposed to have made to London has been postponed until mid December.

In London, the Argentine and British foreign ministers will sign an agreement to guarantee investments. This agreement, which has already been negotiated between the two countries, is similar to the ones signed with Italy, Spain, and Belgium, among other countries.

Bolivia

Belgian Company To Build Weapons Plant

PY0212191690 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 17 Nov 90 p 5

[Text] An agreement between the National Defense Ministry, represented by National Defense Minister Hector Ormachea Penaranda, and Mr. Marc Leclaire, sales manager for Fabrique Nationale Herstal, Inc., of Belgium, was signed in a special ceremony at the defense minister's office. This agreement provides for the installation of a plant in Cotapachi, Quillacollo Province, Cochabamba Department, to recondition weapons for the Armed Forces. It will cost about $1 million to build the plant. As an advance payment, Minister Ormachea handed over a check for one-third of the sum; this money came from a 7-million bolivianos credit granted by the Central Bank of Bolivia. Minister Ormachea expressed great satisfaction that this plant, which should have been built 12 years ago, will become reality. According to the agreement, the plant must be built within a six-month period. It will allow the Armed Forces to recondition its war materiel for four or five times the amount that the plant itself will cost. [sentence as published]

This old project will also allow the use of components and spare parts that have been in storage for a long time.

The ceremony was also attended by General Jorge Moreira Rojas, Armed Forces commander in chief; Division General Guido Sandoval Zambrana, Army general commander [as published]; Division General Rolando Arzabe Claver, under secretary for defense; Air Force Division General Franz Moscoso Ruiz, under secretary for military aeronautics; Rear Admiral Freddy Lopez Arispe, under secretary for maritime affairs; and the relevant Defense Ministry directors.

IDB Grants Loans for Regional Credit

PY3011203590 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 22 Nov 90 p 1

[Excerpt] The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) yesterday approved two loans and technical cooperation amounting to $63.3 million. These loans will reportedly be used to finance a program of regional credit for urban development and a basic sanitary works program.

The report provided by the IDB press office explained that the project will be carried out by the National Regional Development Fund (FNDR) and that it will cost a total of $80 million.

The objective of the project is to support Bolivia in its regional and municipal development strategy and to try to improve the lifestyle of people through sanitary, urban and interurban roads, energy, and property registry projects. It also seeks to strengthen the institutions participating in this project. [passage omitted]

Foreign Reserves Reportedly Total $180 Million

PY3011203190 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 23 Nov 90 p 6

[Summary] The finance and planning ministers have reported during a cabinet meeting that the Bolivian foreign reserves total $180 million. Presidency Minister Gustavo Fernandez pointed out that during the previous administration these reserves totaled only $80 million. He also commented on the gradual and constant decrease of the inflation rate. The planning minister reported that the international financing community has promised to grant Bolivia $926 million for 1991. Also during the cabinet meeting, Foreign Minister Carlos Iturralde reported that Argentina has confirmed that it will pay regularly for the gas purchased from Bolivia and "on the scheduled dates."

Brazil

Rezek Comments on Bush Visit; Security Reported

PY3011133290 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 0900 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Begin recording] [Journalist Carmen Luiza] In a news conference for Brazilian and foreign journalists, Foreign Minister Francisco Rezek said Brazil expects the U.S. Government to cooperate with the efforts of the Southern Cone governments and to convince the private creditor banks that the foreign debt also has political aspects.

[Rezek] We are concerned about whether there will be a well-balanced effort and persistence in supporting the three aspects of the Initiative for the Americas—trade, investment, and foreign debt. We are anxious to know whether the foreign debt aspect will be set aside and viewed as unimportant because of the emphasis placed on the other two aspects—trade and investment. If this happens, it will not be good for us.

There is also a fourth aspect of this initiative that we have been trying to point out, to emphasize, and we must succeed in this effort. This aspect is technology transfer. [end recording] [passage omitted]

The Federal District Military Police will not allow demonstrations against the U.S. President's visit; 1,000 men have been assigned to protect the U.S. leader. [passage omitted] The Brasilia military police will repress all marches and groups of people protesting Bush's visit to Brazil. They will also confiscate offensive posters aimed at the foreign visitor. [passage omitted]

Bush To Be Asked To Mediate

PY0112030490 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0014 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Excerpts] Brasilia, 30 Nov (EFE)—It was disclosed today that the Brazilian Government wants U.S. President George Bush to act as its interlocutor with international creditor banks in an attempt to get them to make their demands for the payment of overdue interest more flexible.

Brazilian Ambassador to the United States Maximiliano Marques Moreira asserted that the foreign debt issue is "a matter of concern" that will be raised during Bush's visit to Brasilia on Monday, 3 December.

According to Marques Moreira, the Brazilian authorities will tell Bush and members of his entourage that "Brazil is a solvent country that is suffering a momentary shortage of money and wants understanding to be able to honor its debts in the long term."

The Brazilian foreign debt, which amounts to more than $116 billion, and the possibility of access to high technology are the main issues the Brazilian authorities will discuss with their U.S. counterparts. [passage omitted]

The Brazilian ambassador noted that the banks' "inflexible attitude" is prompted by recent financial difficulties related to the real estate market, credits, and the recession affecting the U.S. economy.

On possible economic assistance that Washington may give the five countries Bush will visit between 3 and 8 December, Marques Moreira stated: "I doubt they will come with their suitcases full."

The ambassador said Bush and Brazilian President Fernando Collor, who will meet for one and one-half hours on Monday morning—half an hour alone and one hour with their main advisers—share views and "friendship."

The ambassador noted the progress made in bilateral trade, such as recent U.S. financial aid for two Brazilian satellites, and the interest the two governments have in the reduction of EC subsidies for agricultural products. [passage omitted]

Bush Expected To Bring 'Good News' on Debt

PY0112213090 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 1 Dec 90 p 7

[Report by Jose Meirelles Passos]

[Excerpt] Washington—President George Bush will bring at least two pieces of good news to Brazil during his visit next Monday, 3 December: He will tell President Fernando Collor that the White House has received congressional authorization to negotiate a reduction of the official bilateral debt, and he will give Collor details of a plan to create a fund for environmental projects in Brazil. These projects will be financed with the bilateral debt's overdue interest.

The meeting between the two presidents will focus largely on economic issues. The United States wants the economy of Brazil and the other Latin American countries to recover. One of the main reasons for this interest is that the crisis affecting this region is causing U.S. exports to gradually drop. [passage omitted]

Trade Union Plans Anti-Bush Rally in Brasilia

PY0312015390 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0110 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Excerpt] Brasilia, 2 Dec (EFE)—The United Federation of Workers (CUT), the leading trade union in Brazil, has called a rally for 3 December at Plaza del Pueblo [as received] to protest U.S. President George Bush's 27-hour visit to Brazil.

Elzira do Espirito Santo, president of the CUT Brasilia branch, today described Bush's visit as "an affront to Brazilian sovereignty" because the United States "has constantly intervened in our economy" through the IMF. The CUT leader charged that despite the fact that President Fernando Collor de Mello's government has frozen salaries for the past eight months, in keeping with IMF intervention, inflation during this period has neared 500 percent.

During the rally, the workers will wave placards rejecting the U.S. President's visit and urging the government not to pay the Brazilian foreign debt, which amounts to $116 billion, the largest one among the Latin American countries. [passage omitted]

Collor Admits Changes in Economic Plan Possible

PY0112222090 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 1 Dec 90 p 4

[Report by Teodomiro Braga]

[Text] London—In an interview with the London newspaper FINANCIAL TIMES, President Fernando Collor has admitted that in the wake of results of the 25 November elections, changes may be made in the economic stabilization plan implemented on 16 March. He affirmed that his government is working to bring inflation down to three percent a month.

In the FINANCIAL TIMES interview, the president said: "We have to see if the plan will need some modification. The best economic plan we need is one that is supported by society and by a large part of Congress."

Collor also said he was stepping up efforts to forge a "national understanding" to topple inflation. In a regular article published in yesterday's issue of the FINANCIAL TIMES, journalists Robert Graham and Christina Lamb revealed that President Collor blamed the higher cost of imported oil—a result of the Persian Gulf crisis—for the recent upsurge in Brazil's inflation. According to this newspaper article, Collor also denied that the results of the elections for state governors can be interpreted as a referendum on his administration, saying that the results should be construed as a "consolidation of democracy."

Collor Sends 'Warning' to EEC on GATT Talks

PY3011204090 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 28 Nov 90 p B 9

[Special report from Geneva for FOLHA DE SAO PAULO]

[Text] EEC Commission President Jacques Delors received a letter from President Fernando Collor de Mello this week warning him that Brazil could reconsider the concessions it made during the Uruguay Round of GATT talks if it is not granted any advantages in the agricultural field.

The president added: "The EEC proposal would cause a drastic reduction in tax revenues and a decline in the standard of living of Brazilian producers who, because of the shortage of funds, would tend to make less appropriate use of land and forest resources, with the subsequent negative impact on the environment."

Ambassador Rubens Ricupero, the head of the Brazilian delegation in Geneva, mentioned President Collor's letter yesterday. The ambassador admitted that Brazil, while still attempting to achieve viable gains during the negotiations, must prevent losses and try to establish rules on the unilateral lodging of protests [representacoes] and abuses of antidumping [preceding word in English] investigations that could potentially lead to limits on international trade.

Rezek Calls For Change in Creditors' Positions

PY0212013890 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 1 Dec 90 p 27

[Excerpt] Sao Paulo—In an address to 250 EEC diplomatic and commercial representatives in Brazil yesterday, Foreign Minister Francisco Rezek said that selfish positions adopted by some countries and creditor groups are putting the economies of debtor countries at risk.

Rezek noted: "Those selfish positions should be abandoned because we need to enter a new international period in which nations have not only political, but also economic rapport."

Those who attended the meeting sponsored by the Chambers of Commerce of the EEC countries interpreted the speech as a strong message to the creditors. Minister Rezek said Brazil has demonstrated goodwill by removing economic and protectionist barriers and initiating an opening to the outside. He also said that measures implemented by President Collor de Mello are ending the economic isolation in which Brazil has lived for decades. [passage omitted]

Iran To Place Various Orders Worth $12 Billion

PY0112192490 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 0900 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Excerpt] Iran will place orders with Brazil for $12 billion over the next five years. This information was delivered in Sao Paulo by Infrastructure Minister Ozires Silva to businessmen of the Brazilian Association for the Development of Basic Industries [ABDIB].

According to Silva, Iran plans to invest $120 billion over the next five years, 10 percent of which will put toward orders with Brazil in the fields of infrastructure, agroindustry, paper and cellulose, mining, and electric energy.

An Iranian minister will arrive in our country on 9 December to implement the deals. [passage omitted]

Cooperation Agreements Signed With Tunisia

PY3011220590 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 28 Nov 90 p 22

[Text] Brasilia—Foreign Minister Francisco Rezek and Tunisian Foreign Minister Habib Boulares yesterday signed a trade agreement and a document that creates a Joint Cooperation Commission to help strengthen relations between the two countries. The two ministers talked about the Persian Gulf crisis and agreed that the only outlet is a negotiated solution because a war would have disastrous results. At the present time Brazil does not import anything from Tunisia, and exports of sugar, tobacco, and soybean, amount to only $32 million.

Investment, Technology Accord Signed

PY3011214790 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 0900 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Text] The Foreign Ministry has signed agreements with eight Brazilian states to implement a project to attract investments and promote the transfer of technology. Reporter Gustavo Mariani explains the details of the agreements:

[Begin Mariani recording] The objective of this proposal is to introduce an information system to promote joint ventures [two previous words in English] among small and medium-size Brazilian companies with foreign companies, seeking to lure the transfer of technology to needy or stagnant economic sectors. The project should benefit from the current trend of certain economic blocs—like the EEC, the United States, Canada, Japan and the Asian tigers—to seek commercial partners for joint ventures in developing countries.

The states that will initially take part in this project are: Rio Grande do Sul, Santa Catarina, Parana, Sao Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Minas Gerais, Bahia, Pernambuco, and the Federal District. Itamaraty will continue to sponsor and organize seminars abroad on the opportunities for investment in Brazil. [end recording]

Minimum Wage up 140.52 Percent Under Collor

PY3011194090 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 0900 GMT 28 Nov 90

[Text] On 2 December, the minimum wage will go up to 8,826.82 cruzeiros, with bimonthly readjustments of six percent as established by the Constitution. The minimum wage has gone up 140.52 percent since the beginning of the Collor administration.

Chile

Reportage Follows Debate Over Bush Visit

UDI 'Veto' on Trip to Congress

PY0112122490 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Excerpt] Deputy Pablo Longueira of the Independent Democratic Union [UDI] has said that his party will maintain its veto on receiving U.S. President George Bush in a joint session of Congress. He made this statement after meeting with Interior Minister Enrique Krauss at Government House:

[Begin Longueira recording] We analyzed our position following the announcements that have been made, but we still believe that the answers which have been given for the many discriminatory U.S. policies against Chile are not enough. This is why we will maintain our position of not receiving Bush in Congress. He cannot be received in Congress as long as the UDI maintains its veto. [end recording]

Longueira said that although the United States has lifted the ban on Chile's reentry into the U.S. Generalized System of Preferences, there are still many other sanctions that require clarification. Longueira mentioned the ban imposed by the Kennedy Amendment and a possible compensation payment to Chile for damages incurred during the poisoned grapes case. Longueira noted that most of what has been accomplished so far on this issue has been due to his party's stance. [passage omitted]

Opposition to Visit Called 'Absurd'

PY3011003690 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Excerpts] President Patricio Aylwin said today that the idea of not welcoming President George Bush at a joint session of Congress was absurd. Speaking at a news conference, Aylwin also reiterated his criticism of the banking system because it has not contributed to the economic adjustment process. He added that everyone has made sacrifices in this process except the banks. [passage omitted]

Regarding President Bush's visit and Chilean relations with the United States, Aylwin said:

[Begin recording] We are criticized for being weak, for being condescended to, for being submissive, and for selling out. The truth is that the management of international relations is the president's responsibility, and the president must carry out this responsibility with patriotism and in the most effective way to best serve the country's interests. International conflicts or problems cannot be resolved with a combative attitude. They can be resolved through negotiations, and that is the purpose of diplomacy. [end recording]

President Aylwin denied Chile paid a high price in approving the patents law to be included in the Generalized System of Preferences. He admitted, however, that the U.S. Government showed some interest in that issue.

Correa Denies Rumors of Cancellation

PY3011164490 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Report by Nelson Urzeiza from La Moneda]

[Excerpt] Secretary General of the Presidency Enrique Correa has said that the executive branch has not heard any news about U.S. President George Bush possibly canceling his visit to Chile as a result of the recent UN Security Council resolution approving the use of force against Iraq if it does not leave Kuwait by a set date.

Minister Correa commented briefly on the issue at La Moneda Palace, noting that President Bush will come to Chile as scheduled and that we will welcome him happily. [passage omitted]

Party Wants Grape Issue on Agenda

PY3011172990 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Report by Daniela Araneda from the Foreign Ministry]

[Text] Andres Allamand, the president of the National Renewal Party, has stated that there is no reason to exclude the poisoned grapes issue from the agenda to be discussed by Presidents Patricio Aylwin and George Bush. Allamand and other members of his party this morning met with Foreign Minister Enrique Silva Cimma to discuss this issue and our bilateral ties with the United States.

Allamand noted that there is a clear contradiction between government officials on this subject. He said that while Minister Secretary General of Government Enrique Correa reported that the grape issue was excluded from the agenda, Foreign Minister Silva Cimma said that the two presidents will have a relatively open agenda.

'Historic' Visit Appreciated

PY0212011090 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2348 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Excerpt] Santiago, 1 Dec (EFE)—Enrigue Correa, Chilean secretary general of the Presidency, said in Santiago today that U.S. President George Bush's upcoming visit to Chile was historic.

Correa added: "We highly appreciate the visit and regard it as the full normalization of relations between the United States and Chile, which have been affected by serious ups and downs in the past few years."

Correa explained that everything is "settled" to receive the U.S. President, the first to visit Chile since Dwight Eisenhower's visit 30 years ago. Correa said that the subjects to be discussed by Bush and Chilean President Patricio Aylwin have already been selected and noted that talks will focus on bilateral trade and the establishment of a continental free trade zone.

When asked about a possible lifting of the "Kennedy Amendment," which bans weapons sales to Chile and was implemented by the United States against Chile during the previous regime, the minister declined to comment on what he said was mere "speculation." He admitted, however, that "we would be very happy" if the sanction is lifted before 6 December, when Bush is scheduled to arrive in Santiago." [passage omitted]

Socialists Term Visit Helpful

PY0112021390 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Text] Jorge Arrate, Socialist Party president, said today that the position of a single party like the UDI [Independent Democratic Union] cannot prevent Congress, as a legislative branch, from welcoming a foreign president. Arrate added that the presence of U.S. President George Bush will help the country continue to gradually reestablish full relations with the United States, relations that deteriorated as a result of actions by the military government.

Asked if the UDI position could really prevent Congress from welcoming President Bush, Jorge Arrate said:

[Begin recording] I do not know. I am not a congressman, and I am not an expert in congressional regulations. That question should be asked of a congressman. If that were the case, that regulation would be

an abuse because it would affect the overall policy of the Foreign Ministry and the country. It seems strange to me that there could be a regulation allowing a single congressman to prevent the holding of a joint session of Congress when the majority approved it. [end recording]

Arrate hoped, however, that the UDI congressmen will reconsider their position and change their negative attitude on this issue.

No Reply From Pinochet on Bush Welcome, Dinner

PY0112113090 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Text] The agenda for President George Bush's visit is going through a final review. The U.S. President will arrive on 6 December for a 23-hour visit in Santiago. Foreign Ministry Protocol Director Carlos Klammer has said that the agenda will go through a final review, including on-site inspections by Foreign Ministry officials and members from the U.S. advance party.

President Bush will be welcomed at the international airport by his counterpart, Patricio Aylwin; the interior minister; the foreign minister; the presidents of both congressional houses; the Supreme Court president; the archbishop of Santiago; and other civilian and military authorities. Klammer noted that General Augusto Pinochet, Army commander in chief, is the only authority who has still not confirmed his presence at the airport or the state dinner Aylwin will hold for President Bush.

Declines Commitment on Bush Reception

PY0212000290 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2307 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Text] Santiago, 1 Dec (EFE)—It was reported today that General Augusto Pinochet, the Chilean Army commander, has stated that he does not know whether he will attend the reception for U.S. President George Bush on 6 December, when he will visit Chile as part of a tour of Latin America.

When Pinochet—who ruled for 16 and a half years after a military coup on 11 September 1973 which ousted late President Salvador Allende—was asked by journalists about the reception in Bush's honor, he said: "There is still a lot of time, how should I know whether I will attend it or not?"

The army commander, who attended a military ceremony at a garrison in Santiago, also refused to comment on a possible lifting of the "Kennedy Amendment," which prevents Chile from importing weapons and spare parts from the United States.

Unlike the other armed forces commanders, who have attended all receptions on the occasion of official visits to Chile, including the one for the king and queen of Spain, Pinochet has not attended any of them. Army Deputy Commander General Jorge Lucar went instead.

President George Bush will start a visit to Brazil, Uruguay, Argentina, Chile, and Venezuela on 2 December [as received].

Silva Welcomes Lifting of U.S. Sanctions

PY0212023890 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0101 GMT 2 Dec 90

[Text] Santiago, 1 Dec (EFE)—Chilean Foreign Minister Enrique Silva Cimma confirmed in Santiago today that the U.S. Government has lifted the "Kennedy Amendment," which prohibited the sale of weapons to the Chilean military regime. The "Kennedy Amendment" was implemented by the U.S. Congress in 1976 on the grounds of human rights violations under General Augusto Pinochet's regime, which ruled Chile between September 1973 and March 1990.

The Chilean Government was expecting this decision, which was announced on the eve of U.S. President George Bush's 6 December visit. U.S. Ambassador to Santiago Charles Gillespie informed the Chilean foreign minister about the decision, noting that it was made by the U.S. Congress after a favorable recommendation by President Bush.

The Chilean minister said: "The lifting of the sanction implies the U.S. Government's recognition of the fact that we are living in a consolidated democratic system." Silva Cimma added: "The sanction was lifted because it is believed Chile is efficiently overcoming all the limitations that justified implementation of the amendment."

The minister said that the lifting of this sanction is very important for Chile "from the psychological point of view because it is a sign of the country's democratic image with the international community, and from the point of view of the growing regularization of our relations with the United States."

Clarification of the Washington murder of former Chilean Foreign Minister Orlando Letelier and his U.S. secretary, Ronnie Moffit, by members of Pinochet's secret police was another prerequisite for suspension of the amendment. The U.S. Congress demanded that the Chilean Government prove that efforts were made to bring those responsible for the crime before the Chilean court. At the time of the murder, the U.S. court repeatedly asked the military government and the local courts to authorize the extradition of former secret police director General Manuel Contreras and his assistant, Colonel Pedro Espinoza, who are believed to be the authors of the crime.

Jorge Schaulsohn, Party for Democracy (PPD) deputy, believes the "Kennedy Amendment" shows that "a democratic government does not need sanctions to bring the murderers of Letelier and Moffit before court."

Andres Allamand, president of the rightist National Renewal Party, said the measure "was unjust and arbitrary," and its suspension "opens the way for positive,

fruitful relations with the United States." He noted that currently, human rights are respected and democracy exists in Chile.

This measure seriously affected the Chilean Armed Forces, whose war materiel was purchased almost exclusively from the United States. The Air Force was especially affected and the sanction was partially lifted a month ago so the Air Force could renew its equipment and acquire spare parts. According to several analysts, the sanction was successfully endured by the military, which was forced to develop their own military industry, which is now very large.

The Chilean extreme rightist sector, which had voiced its opposition to Bush's visit, had used the fact that this and other sanctions remained in place to attack the policy of Patricio Aylwin's government toward the United States.

'All' Congressmen To Welcome Bush Now

PY0312114190 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Senator Jaime Guzman of the Independent Democratic Union [UDI] has announced that all congressmen will attend the congressional session on 6 December to welcome President Bush. Guzman said this in Concepcion upon learning that the United States has agreed to lift the Kennedy Amendment. Guzman said that the UDI will reconsider its position of rejecting President Bush's visit because the reasons for such an attitude have positively changed.

Guzman stressed that the lifting of the Kennedy Amendment is really very good news for Chile. He finally rejected the comparison between the position of the UDI with that of the Communist Party regarding President Bush's visit. He said that the attitude of the UDI is completely different from that of the Communists.

Silva Notes 'Concern' About UN Resolution

PY0112005690 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Text] Foreign Minister Enrique Silva Cimma has noted that the Chilean Government is concerned about the UN Security Council resolution on the use of force against Iraq as early as 15 January 1991. The minister explained, however, that Chile accepts the Security Council decisions.

[Begin Silva recording] The government has strictly adhered to a permanent norm of accepting and respecting UN decisions and agreements—specifically, those made by the UN Security Council. Naturally, we are watching that resolution with interest, as well as with, shall we say, concern. We hope this resolution will mark the conclusion of a process that will ultimately lead to a solution of the problem in the Persian Gulf without the use of arms. [end recording]

The resolution—sponsored by the United States, the Soviet Union, France, Great Britain, and Canada—was approved by 12 votes, with two votes against and one abstension. The UN Security Council has authorized the use of force against Iraq if it does not pull out of Kuwait and release all foreign hostages by 15 January 1991.

Silva Cimma Hails Japan, Philippines Visit

PY3011231190 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 23 Nov 90 p C 3

[Text] Chilean Foreign Minister Enrique Silva Cimma conveyed yesterday his satisfaction over his recent tour of Japan and the Philippines, because "it was instrumental in virtually allowing Chile to rejoin the Pacific Basin countries." He also emphasized the "extraordinary receptiveness" he observed in those countries.

Silva Cimma returned yesterday at 1400 on a commercial flight from France. Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Edmundo Vargas, who was acting foreign minister during Silva Cimma's absence, welcomed him at the airport.

Accompanied by Protocol Director Carlos Klammer, Silva Cimma represented Chile at the enthronement ceremony of Emperor Akihito in Tokyo, Japan. Silva Cimma went from there to the Philippines and, finally, made a private visit to France.

Asked about his tour, Silva Cimma said he was "very happy" about the overall results. He described as "very positive" the talks he held in Tokyo which, he said, were in keeping with the Foreign Ministry's goal of getting Chile back into the international community.

Silva Cimma said: "This tour was instrumental in virtually allowing Chile to rejoin the Pacific Basin countries following the extraordinary receptiveness accorded to Chile. Thus, we have very good prospects." He added that after briefing the president he will give further details of his tour to the media.

Commenting on his visit to the Philippines, Silva Cimma said that this Southeast Asian country has shown the greatest interest in strengthening ties with our country. He said he discussed the subject with President Corazon Aquino in a 30-minute working meeting. He said: "At the highest level, we discussed a number of subjects related to an ideal level of relations."

Gen. Matthei to Israel for Mirage-50 Upgrade

PY3011212790 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 22 Nov 90 p C3

[Text] Chilean Air Force (FACh) General Fernando Matthei Aubel has been studying details related to the upgrading of the "Panther" model of the Mirage-50 plane in Israel.

The FACh chief of staff left for Israel on 24 November, via England, at the invitation of the Israeli Air Force. He

traveled with his wife, Mrs. Elda Fornet; FACh Secretary General Colonel Enrique Montealegre, and his aide-de-camp.

The Mirage-50 plane is manufactured by the French Marcel Dassault company and is Chile's most modern fighter. To fulfill the needs of the institution, a prototype of the Mirage-50 squadron has been jointly upgraded by the Israeli IAI [Israeli Aircraft Industries] and the National Aeronautics Enterprise (ENAER).

The prototype has successfully undergone test flights and has been on exhibition.

Development of Military Rocket Nears Completion

PY0212193890 Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 21 Nov 90 p 6

[Text] Within a year at the latest, Chile will be in a position to begin full-scale production of the military rocket "Rayo" [Thunderbolt], which is now being developed. This was announced by General Francisco Hormazabal, who pointed out that "the idea is to save the most money possible by making our own products, which could even be exported to neighboring countries."

Gen. Hormazabal said the aforementioned rocket has already demonstrated its power in a satisfactory test recently carried out in the UK.

The Army general made this remark while opening the first symposium on rockets and missiles organized in our country by the Military Industry and Engineering Command [Comando de Industria Militar e Ingenieria] and sponsored by the Army staff. The symposium began yesterday at the Military Geographic Institute.

Amy, Navy, and Air Force officers, who are rocket and missile experts, are participating in this symposium, which has a scientific-military nature. The symposium's goal is to gain knowledge on production capabilities and technological developments achieved by the Armed Forces branches; review spare parts and components developed by each branch that could be used by other branches; and review possibilities for new products and projects to achieve mutual cooperation and integration.

Leading international weaponry consortiums from France, the UK, and Israel have also been invited to attend the symposium, which will end on 22 November.

Navy To Control Antarctic Treaty Compliance

PY3011233190 Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 20 Nov 90 p 7

[Report by Alvaro Inostroza from Valparaiso]

[Excerpt] The commanders and navigation officers of the four ships that make up the Navy group, which will conduct tasks in the Antarctic, and the commodore in charge of the group will supervise, for the first time, the compliance of Article 7 in the Antarctic Treaty. This article deals with the defense of sea resources in the frozen continent.

Commodore Jorge Vergara granted an interview to this newspaper on board the freighter Aquiles, which heads the expedition. Vergara reported that, in addition to the nine assigned officers [not further specified], his navigation officer will also act as a supervisor.

The high-ranking officer added: "The mission of these 10 people has been confirmed by the Chilean Foreign Ministry and the governments of all the Antarctic Treaty signatory countries have been informed. This means that our supervision is more important and more authoritative, mainly because an agreement on the defense of live marine resources in the Antarctic has been recently approved."

Vergara pointed out that the group will conduct tasks in the Antarctic during the 1990-91 period. The group comprises the following vessels: the Aquiles, with a crew of 95; the Piloto Pardo, with a crew of 70; the Yelcho, with a crew of 45; and the high-seas tugboat Galvarino, with a crew of 35. Additionally, the Aquiles will take two Navy UH-57 helicopters on board. [passage omitted]

French Official Signs Cooperation Agreement

PY0212014490 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Text] French Minister-Delegate [title as heard] (Louise Arvais) has stressed the importance of her visit to Chile, stating that it is the first official visit by a French Foreign Ministry official in 17 years. The French delegate, who signed an agreement with Foreign Minister Enrique Silva Cimma within the framework of the Commission for Joint Cooperation, stressed the fact that this agreement marks the official resumption, after 11 years, of Chilean- French cooperation.

Communist Youths Reject Budget Funding for CNI

PY3011225190 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Text] Communist youth leaders have described Defense Minister Patricio Rojas' remarks that the National Intelligence Center [CNI] will not be involved in stakeout operations as naive and cynical. (Marisolda Rios), Luciano Ojeda, and Hugo Millar have charged that the reallocation by Congress of budget funds for CNI agents is extremely serious for the democratic transition. Millar said the defense minister's remarks contradict earlier remarks by Deputy Andres Palma and Senator Eduardo Frei, who charged that they are being harassed.

[Begin Millar recording] We, young communists, reject the immoral practices which have resulted in deals with the CNI and in ignoring some commitments that were included in the government plan for which we Chileans voted and which, explicitly, vowed to dissolve the CNI and to clear up its crimes. [end recording]

Millar said the previous government endangered national interests on every front. Luciano Ojeda said that proof of this is the case of the checks issued to Augusto Pinochet Hiriat [son of General Augusto Pinochet] and the charges made by Deputy Carlos Dupre. Asked about the motion of censure against Dupre, proposed by the National Renewal Party, Ojeda said this party should be more concerned about what is happening inside the Army.

Paraguay

Minister on UN Resolution on Use of Force

PY0112141490 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2327 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Text] Asuncion, 29 Nov (EFE)—Paraguayan Foreign Minister Alexis Frutos Vaesken told EFE today that the UN Security Council resolution authorizing the use of force against Iraq is meant in principle to create "a dissuasive effect" so Iraq will "reconsider and abandon the occupied territories."

Consulted after the announcement of the Security Council vote, Frutos Vaesken explained that the resolution is aimed at producing this dissuasive effect "but not a war." The resolution gives Iraq until 15 January 1991 to comply with previous UN resolutions on the invasion of Kuwait.

Frutos Vaesken believes war must be avoided because, he said, "it would be regrettable" in view of the international rapprochement that has recently been taking place. He urged that all options be exhausted before resorting to the military alternative.

Government Views Position on U.S. Sanction

PY0212001890 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 29 Nov 90 p 16

[Text] Asked about the U.S. decision to lift the tariff sanction imposed on Chile and an African country, but to maintain it against Paraguay, Industry Under Secretary Ubaldo Scavone said: "I believe Paraguay has demonstrated its desire to improve its labor legislation; it has opened the doors for free union membership and has taken all the necessary steps in accordance with what was previously discussed for the sanction to be lifted. If the U.S. Government has decided to maintain the sanction until March, it knows why it is doing that. We do not understand the reason."

Asked about the fact that the CUT [United Labor Federation] continues to denounce violations of workers' rights, Scavone said: "Maybe there are isolated situations, but it cannot be said that the government and the business sector as a whole are against union membership or that they are carrying out a remorseless persecution of labor leadership, which would be something that could be sanctioned."

Asked about the CUT's position on the United States maintaining the tariff sanction against our country he said: "It is my belief that the request makes no sense, and I believe that there is no sense in maintaining the sanction after our reiterated expressions of goodwill and the implementation of concrete measures since talks about this matter began."

When asked if two draft labor codes exist at this time, one submitted by the CUT and the other by the National Codification Commission, and about labor leaders assertions that the commission's draft calls for even more restrictions of labor rights, the under secretary threw the ball back to the journalists: "Who knows?" When they insisted that this is exactly what he was being asked, he stated: "No, I am asking you. Who knows the truth?"

Asked about the unionizing of public employees, he said: "The new code"—he did not mention which of the two drafts—"allows the employees of state enterprises to become union members; what is not allowed is the unionization of central administration employees because the Constitution has to be modified for this to happen."

Labor Minister on Sanctions

PY0212005690 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 30 Nov 90 p 20

[Text] Justice and Labor Minister Hugo Estigarribia has said that the alleged reasons for maintaining the sanction that prevents national products from entering the United States under the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) have disappeared. He added that if it is not lifted, the United States does not have the political desire to do so.

He said the government is hopeful that the sanction against Paraguay will be lifted very soon. He added that the U.S. decision to allow Chile GSP privileges was "probably because of political motives, and most probably has something to do with President George Bush's visit to Chile."

He said the fact that Paraguay has not yet been granted GSP privileges again means the matter has just been postponed; it is not a definite refusal.

He stressed that the Paraguayan Government is observing rules and regulations on labor activities: "There is union freedom; it is a question of complying with the Labor Code, and a draft bill with changes to the Labor Code has been submitted to Congress. If the sanction is not lifted, then the political desire to do so does not exist."

He stressed that he knows of no new events that could cause the sanction to be maintained. "You judge what the reason can be," he said. He emphasized that without external pressure, the government is trying to improve and democratize labor relations. "If we act under pressure from people who provide guidelines, then we would lose our sovereignty. We are not being pressured by anyone," he stressed.

He indicated that the national economy does not depend lifting the sanction, but it is important that "the countries that have the power to morally impose sanctions should know that there is no reason to maintain them."

Uruguay

Workers To Hold Rally Upon Bush's Arrival

PY0112111690 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Excerpt] Last night the PIT-CNT [Interunion Workers Plenum-National Convention of Workers] approved a protest rally for 4 December, when U.S. President George Bush will arrive in our country.

The rally, which will be held at 1900 at the Plaza del Entrevero, was called to repudiate the aggressive policy of the North American President. [passage omitted]

Deputies Reject Bullet-Proof Enclosure for Bush

PY0112192090 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0035 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Excerpt] Montevideo, 30 Nov (EFE)—The Uruguayan Chamber of Deputies today rejected the installation of a bullet-proof enclosure [cabina blindada] requested by the security services for U.S. President George Bush to speak from during his 4 December visit to Congress.

In the opinion of many congressmen, this pretense by the security services "is an exaggeration."

Bush will remain in Uruguay for just 22 hours, from Tuesday 4 December until the next day, when he will leave for Buenos Aires. [passage omitted]

Union Group Prevents Lacalle Speech in Paysandu

PY3011214490 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Text] President Luis Alberto Lacalle has opened the international fair in Paysandu Department. He also signed an agreement with Paysandu Municipal Intendant Jorge Larranaga Fraga at the Town Hall, which provides for the creation of a departmental committee to assist children and families.

Before the opening of Fipay-90, President Lacalle visited the intendant's office—in the Engineer Jose A. Huistapache Room—where he signed a document creating the Childhood and Family Committee. He then granted a news conference on various topics and announced that he will travel to Buenos Aires this weekend to share a working lunch with his Argentine counterpart, Carlos Menem.

A disagreeable incident took place during the Fipay-90 opening ceremony, preventing President Luis Alberto Lacalle from delivering the speech he had prepared for the occasion. A group of people brought together by the Paysandu labor unions shouted protests. The group gathered at Colon Square and began to protest the presence of President Lacalle and his entourage; they succeeded in preventing the president from delivering his speech.